

## THE BOZEMAN FAMILY

NATHAN BOZEMAN left Holland = or Germany - in the mid 1600's and came to the American Colonies. He settled first in the Dutch settlement in New York, but later moved to the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland.

JOSEPH E. BOZEMAN, son of Nathan Bozeman, migrated southward from Maryland to North Carolina before the American Revolution where he settled in Bladen County. Joseph had several sons. One was Samuel Bozeman, great-grandfather of Rev. Joseph Woodruff Bozeman, one of the first pastors of the First Baptist Church in Meridian, Mississippi, and who wrote a book on the Bozeman family. Another son of Joseph's was Luke Bozeman. A third son, whose name has been lost, was the ancestor of the Bozeman family that came to Pine Springs in Lauderdale County in 1883.

MEADY BOZEMAN, SR. GRANDSON OF Joseph E. Bozeman, was son of Joseph E. Bozeman's son whose name is not known. Meady was married in the 1770's about the time of the American Revolution but it is not known if he fought in that war. There were several Bozemans from Bladen County, North Carolina, that fought with the Colonist in that war but it is not known if Meady was one of them.

Meady, Sr.'s first wife (name unknown) died and he then married Miss Chloe Nelson. Sometime before 1800, Meady and Chloe moved to Twiggs County, Georgia, where Meady died in 1809. He was 64 years old when he died, and he left seven children. We do not know which wife was the mother of which child.

Children:

- I. HOWELL BOZEMAN 1780NC-1812Fl, m. Nancy Cook, 1803. First lived near Savannah, Georgia, but later moved to Milledgeville, living there until 1810 where he built the first State House, a large Gothic building, between 1800 and 1806. Whether he worked as a carpenter, contractor or architect is not known.

In 1810 Howell moved his family to Amite County, Mississippi. He fought in the War of 1812 and was mortally wounded at Pensacola, Florida. His oldest son married a girl from Hinds County, Mississippi and his other children moved there after Howell Bozeman died.

Children:

1. MEADY BOZEMAN 1804Ga-1840Ms, m. (1) Rachel Sanders (2) Huldah Trefau, 1839, Hinds County, Ms. Died at age 36 near Edwards Depot, Hinds Co. His widow married Mr. Brooks.

Children:

- A. Ezekiel Bozeman 1832-186\_\_, died in Confederate Army, Civil War.
- B. Nancy Bozeman 1834-\_\_\_\_, m. Mr. Roberts, moved to Texas, died there. Her sons became wealthy cattlemen.
- C. Joseph Bozeman 1836-186\_\_, died in Confederate Army, Civil War.

2. JAMES BOZEMAN 1806Ga-1848Ms, m. Mary Crider, 1826, Ms. Lived in Hinds County. It was said that he was an 'elegant gentleman'.

Children:

- A. Howell Bozeman 1827?-
- B. Louisa A. Bozeman 1829Ms-1885Ms, m. Andrew J. Cassity, owned a large plantation on Mississippi River. She was famous for her

beauty. Died (age 56) while visiting her daughter, Eugenie C., wife of Wm. D. Hurlbut of Meridian, was buried at Rose Hill Cem. Louisa had two children, Mrs. E.C.Hurlbut of Meridian and Mrs. Jennie Dixon of Terry, Miss.

- C. Chester Bozeman 1830Ms-d/La- m. (1) Mrs. Sallie (Davis) York, had 2 children. (2) Miss Mattie \_\_\_\_\_. Lived in Louisiana.
- D. Sylvester 1832Ms-d/Ms- m. Ollie Bridges, had 3 children. Farmed in Bolivar County, Miss.
- E. Hastings Bozeman 1834-d/Ms- Unmarried, lived at old homeplace.
- F. Linda Bozeman 1836-d/Tx- m. Augustus Dunn, had 3 children, moved to Texas where both died.
- G. Matilda Bozeman 1838-185\_, m. Thos. Hensley of Tenn., lived there.
- H. Joseph Bozeman 1840-1840- Infant.
- I. Eura Bozeman 1844-d/Ms- m. George Courlay, 1863, Hinds County. Lived near Terry, Ms, had 2 children. George and his brother, Dr. John E.T. Gourlay of Jackson, La, were born in Cookstown, County Tyrone, Ireland.
- J. James Bozeman 1846-d/Ms- Unmarried, lived in Hinds Co, Ms.
- 3. THOMAS JEFFERSON BOZEMAN 1808Ms-1870, m. (1) Rachel Parker, 1835, Hinds Co, Ms. who had 3 children, died, 1841. (2) Elizabeth Ford, 1842, Caddo Parish, La, where Tom moved when 1st wife died. Had 2 children born in La; in 1849 moved to McLennan Co, Tex, where 2 more children were born.

In 1854 Tom loaded up his family onto a couple wagons and headed west to the California gold fields. Another baby was born on the plains of New Mexico along the way. Didn't find any gold, but found good farmland in San Joaquin Valley near Fresno. Had 3 more children born in California.

Tom was a Baptist, a pious man, upright and honorable.

Children:

- A. John Walton Bozeman 1836Ms-d/Ca, m. Susanna Hendrey, 1864, Ca. Had ranch near Lemoore, Tulare Co, Ca. Well off financially, did not drink nor swear. Had 8 children, all dark eyes and complexions.
- B. Preston Dodds Bozeman 1830Ms-d/Ca, m. Sarah J. Draper, 1855, Ca. Had ranch near Selma, Tulare Co, Ca; cattleman and farmer, had seven children.
- C. Julia Ann Bozeman 1841Ms-d/Ca, m. James McCorry, 1856, 4 children.
- D. Melissa A. Bozeman 1846La-d/Ca, m. Issac Allen Green, 1860, had 9 children.
- E. William Thomas Bozeman 1848La-d/Ca, m. Mrs. Mary Murphy, 1873.
- F. Euretacy Bozeman 1849Tx-d/Ca, m. (1) George Renick, 1866, he and his 2 children died. (2) James Green, bro. of Issac, 1875, had 3 children before she d. with TB, Selma, Ca. She and her sis, Melissa, both wives of Green brothers, mem. of Campbellite Ch.
- G. Henry Richard Bozeman 1852Tx-d/Ca, m. Dinah Potts, 1879, 2 child.
- H. Susan Bozeman 1854NM-d/Ca, m. Jacob Wright, 1868, had children.
- I. Martha Bozeman 1856Ca-1863Ca, seven years old.
- J. Mary Bozeman 1862Ca-d/Ca, m. (1) Zacchariah Hunt, 1878, 2 child. (2) William Near, lived in Fresno Flat, Fresno, Ca.
- K. Charles Bozeman 1863Ca-1864, small child.
- 4. MARGARET BOZEMAN 1874-d/Tx, m. \_\_\_\_\_ Roberts, moved to Tex. Sons became wealthy ranchers, raised horses to sell back east.

- II. MEADY BOZEMAN, JR. 1874NC-1857MS, the second son of Meady Bozeman, Sr. and (probably) his first wife, Meady Jr. somewhere learned the carpenter trade. He must have been working in Carrolton, Carroll County, Georgia, where he met and married Miss Lucy Carroll. Miss Lucy has been described as a "woman of active, vigorous mind, great strength of character and as fearless as a heroine". They had two sons born in Carroll County.

In 1821 Meady and Lucy Bozeman moved to Dallas County, Alabama, where Meady bought land, worked as a carpenter and farmed. It was said that he was a large, fine-looking man, a blond with blue eyes and had a ruddy face, full of life and jest, the delight of young people even in his advanced years. He built several houses in Dallas County before they moved on to Greene County, Alabama. Their youngest child (Sam) was born in Greene County in 1838.

In 1840 they moved to Kemper County, Mississippi, where Meady died in 1857 at the age of 53. The 1860 census shows Lucy, 64 years old, with all their children married and gone from home except Sam, who was then 23 years old. It is not known when Lucy Bozeman died.

Young Sam was soon to go off and fight in the Civil War. After the war he settled in Pine Springs.

Children:

1. JOHN M. BOZEMAN 1818-d/Al, m. twice, had a child by each wife. He was killed in an altercation in Mobile, Alabama.

Children:

- A. Meady Bozeman 18\_\_, 1884, d. in Sharkey Co, Miss.
- B. John Bozeman 18\_\_-d/Ms, lived in Kemper County, Miss.

2. THOMAS BOZEMAN 1820-d/Ms, m. (1) Elizabeth Bounds (2) Nancy Hicks. Thomas was lame, lived near Herbert, Kemper Co, where he died.

Children:

- A. Meady A. Bozeman
- B. David Bozeman
- C. Jane Bozeman
- D. Elizabeth Bozeman

3. MEADY BOZEMAN III 1822-d/La, m. <sup>Caroline</sup> Gibbons, Kemper Co., <sup>daughter of Robert & Pamela Gibbons</sup> After Civil War, moved to Pleasant Hill, DeSoto Parish, La.

Children:

- A. James Bozeman
- B. Robert Bozeman
- C. Pitt Bozeman

4. MARY (LARY?) BOZEMAN 1824-d/Ms, m. Granville Griffin, lived in Mississippi delta. Children unknown.

5. NANCY BOZEMAN 182\_-18\_\_, m. Simeon Tucker, Children, unknown.

6. DAVID BOZEMAN 18\_\_-186\_\_, m. \_\_ Porter, lived Chickasaw County, Miss. Had 3 daughters, names unknown. Died in Confederate Army, Civil War.

7. SALLIE BOZEMAN 18\_\_-d/Ark, m. Jackson Hicks, moved to Arkansas, Children, unknown.

- > 8. SAMUEL J. BOZEMAN 1838-1903, m. Mrs. Virginia (Shine) Robinson. THIS BOZEMAN SETTLED IN PINE SPRINGS. His story follows.

- IV. LUKE BOZEMAN 1791NC-d/Fla??, oldest child of Meady Bozeman, Sr. and his 2nd wife, Chlor, he moved to Florida. Nothing else is known of this son.

- IV. COL. JOHN BOZEMAN 1793-1848, m. Elizabeth Murphy of Georgia, 1818, had eight children before she died in 1836. (2) Rebecca Jewell Pratt, 1837, had 1 child. (3) Sarah B. Pratt, 1st cousin of 2nd wife.

As a young man, John was Supt. of Georgia penitentiary and a Col. of the Militia. he married Miss Murphy of Ga. when he was 25. Her father gave them 10 'likely' young slaves as a wedding gift which Elizabeth, a rather high-spirited young lady, returned to him at once. She didn't want his slaves. When Col. Bozeman had asked for Elizabeth's hand, Mr. Murphy had told him that he "never made his bed until he was ready to lie down", meaning that he wouldn't make his will until he was ready to die. Elizabeth apparently felt that he had insulted Col. Bozeman.

After Elizabeth died, Col. Bozeman married Rebecca J. Pratt (b.1808, New Hampshire), the double-first cousin of Marshall Jewell, Gov. of Connecticut for 3 terms and was Postmaster-general of US from 1874-1876. His daughter had married Arthur M. Dodge, son of the enormously wealthy William E. Dodge of N.Y. Rebecca's mother's maiden name was Jewell.

John and Rebecca had been married a year and had one child when she died in 1837. John then married Rebecca's first cousin, Sarah Pratt of Vermont, a "lady of fine culture".

Col. and Mrs. Sarah Bozeman had been married 10 years and were living in Florida when they had dinner at the home of Capt. Ross of White Springs. After eating a hardy meal, John suddenly collapsed and died a few minutes later. They buried him at Swift Creek Church, three miles from his home. It was said that he was an energetic, public-spirited, wealthy man who was very well liked.

After the Colonel died, Sarah taught in the upper grades of the Female Baptist College at Cuthbert, Georgia in 1854 and 1855, where Rev. A. T. Holmes was president. (Note: Rev. Holmes was a good friend of Rev. Hiram Powell, a famous and wealthy Baptist minister of Georgia, the father of Esther Pamela Powell who married Dr. David M. Wellborn and came to Lauderdale County, Mississippi in 1871. Rev. Powell's grand-daughter, Mamie Wellborn, was wife of Joel New of Pine Springs.)

Later in life, Sarah Bozeman married Maj. I. F. Baxter and lived in Memphis, Tenn.

Children: (First 8 were Elizabeth's, 9th was Rebecca's.)

1. CORNELIUS MURPHY BOZEMAN 1819-1881, m. Elizabeth Farmer, became prominent merchant in Hawkinsville, Ga. Had several children.
2. ELIZA ANN BOZEMAN 1820-1848, m. Sam'l Buffington, 1835, had children.
3. JOHN BOZEMAN 1823-1858, m. Cassimira Catherine Andrew, a Minorican or Creole lady by whom he had two children.
4. SARAH FRANCES BOZEMAN 1825-18\_\_, m. Sam'l Buffington, her bro-in-law, 1849, had two children who died young.
5. MILTON BOZEMAN 1827-1865, Unmarried, a Confederate Soldier, was captured, died in Yankee prison, Elmira, New York.
6. AMANDA MELVINA BOZEMAN 1830-1834, a small child.
7. EMILY CAROLINE BOZEMAN 1831-1839, a child.
8. ALBERT BOZEMAN 1834-1853, 20 years old.
9. HENRY MARSHALL BOZEMAN 1837-d/Ga, m. (1) Abbie Willcox, 1868, dau. of Capt. Thomas L. Willcox, CSA, of Irving Co, Georgia. She died 1869 leaving one son. (2) India Willcox, Abbie's sister, in 1869.

Henry M. Bozeman was successful accountant, owned large expensive home in Hawkinsville. A serious, non-drinking man, memb. of Methodist Church, Hawkinsville, Georgia.

- V. SALLY BOZEMAN 1785-1835, m. David Bozeman, her second cousin, the son of Luke Bozeman of North Carolina. Lived in Florida until she d. at age 40. Children: (All born in Florida.)  
1. ELISHA WARD BOZEMAN 1823-1863, lived Madison Co, Fla, had 9 children.  
2. MARY ANN BOZEMAN (Twin) 1825-1880, m. C. F. Reichert, 1850?.  
3. MATILDA CAROLINE BOZEMAN (Twin) 1825-d/Fla, m. James Edward Bozeman, son of Luke Bozeman, Jr., also a twin. Lived Dover, Terrell Co, Fla.
- VI. JAMES BOZEMAN 1796?-1843, Hawkinsville, Georgia. Died at 47, unmarried,, with "Tyler's Grippe". (Flu?)
- VII. NANCY BOZEMAN 1878?-19\_\_, m. Jesse Webb. Believed to have lived in Georgia.  
Children: (Only known child; possibly had more.)  
1. SAMUEL BOZEMAN WEBB 18\_\_, moved to Amite County, Mississippi, where there was a large family connection. Had three sons who owned a profitable drug business in Liberty, Amite County.  
Children:  
A. W. Y. Webb  
B. Dr. John W. Webb.  
C. Pleasant Webb.

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SAMUEL J. BOZEMAN

OF PINE SPRINGS

Youngest son of Meady Bozeman, Jr., Sam Bozeman was born February 5, 1838 in Greene County, Alabama. His parents moved the family to Kemper County, Mississippi when young Sam was two years old.

Meady was a carpenter and Sam grew up helping his father build houses. They also raised cotton and Sam learned how to do that, too. Meady was a big jovial, happy man and Sam enjoyed working with his Pa. After the other children had married and gone to start their own lives, Sam and his pa became close, so it was a great loss to the young man when his pa died in 1857. Sam was nineteen when Meady died, and he continued building to support himself and his mother.

Samuel's education had been rather sketchy when he was growing up. There were no public schools in Kemper County at that time, but somewhere he had picked up the rudiments of how to read and write, though his spelling was poor. He spelled everything phonically, just like it sounded. He had a good mind and a natural mechanical bent that served him well and he became a good carpenter.

The Civil War came and of course Samuel thought that he had to go join in the fighting. It is not known who stayed with his mother, other than their few slaves, while he was gone. But Lucy (Carroll) Bozeman was a plucky lady and she more than likely urged Sam on to go whip-up on those damn Yankees. She was 65 years old when the war started; it is not known if she survived those terrible war years.

Pvt. Samuel J. Bozeman joined the 40th Mississippi Infantry, Confederate



States Army. Already a good carpenter, Sam more than likely was placed in the bridge-building detail and that is where he learned to build good bridges. When the war ended and he came home, he was a Sergeant.

Near the war's ending, Sam met a pretty young widow whose husband had died during the conflict, leaving her with two little girls. She had been born Virginia Shine in North Carolina in 1845. Today we know nothing of her family or of her early life. Samuel Bozeman fell in love with Mrs. Virginia Shine Robinson and they were married.

On January 20, 1871, Sam Bozeman of Kemper County paid Wiley Taylor of Lauderdale County \$450 for two 40 acre tracts of land not far south of Meridian. One tract was southwest of town near Arundel and the other was just below Meridian and had a house on it where they made their home. Their land was located in Sections 1 and 7 of Township 5, Range 17E. Sam and Virginia had three children born in Kemper County before they came to Lauderdale County.

The entire town of Meridian had been destroyed by the Yankees during the war and by 1871, when the Bozemans came, it was a boom-town. The rasp of saws and the ring of hammers were heard everywhere and there was much work to be found by a qualified carpenter like Sam Bozeman. Sam also found that he could get contracts from the county supervisors to build bridges across the local creeks. He started out building wood bridges but as time went on he also built concrete bridges. The county placed bronze plaques on the concrete bridges which listed the supervisors and the date, and of course, Samuel J. Bozeman's name as the builder. Sam's bridges are all gone now, taken out and replaced as roads got wider and culverts became bigger. The last one to go was on State Boulevard on the creek that flows from Meridian's Highland Park.

Sam and Jenny Bozeman did not stay on their farm below Meridian but a few years, but moved eight miles northwest of town to the community that was to become Pine Springs. The 1880 census found them living there in Beat 3 with five children. They had had six children born by that time, but they had lost one, little six year old Johnny Bozeman. Virginia's two daughters had married and were not listed with the Bozeman family any more. Sam was 42 that year and Virginia was 35.

Listed with the Bozemans in 1880 was old Dinah, 102 years old. Dinah had been Lucy Bozeman's Mammy and had helped Miss Lucy raise all her chillun. She had been born in South Carolina in 1778, but her parents had come from Africa. The war had set her free from slavery, and she had been married (her name was Summerest), but she never left the Bozeman family. Other than for shelling peas or churning, Dinah couldn't have been much help any more but she was a part of Sam's family and he gave her a home until she died.

There were two other blacks listed with S.J. Bozeman in 1880. They were orphans, nine year old Lon Williamson and his three year old brother, Thomas. The boys slept out back with old Dinah and kept her company.

In 1883 and 1884 the Bozemans bought land in Sections 15 and 16 in Township 7, Range 15E. They first lived there in an old log house that had been built some thirty years earlier in the southwest quarter of Section 15 by Elizabeth Battles. Battles had held the original patent on the land back in 1848. The house was old, but former owners had dug a well nearby and it served as a home for the Bozeman clan until Sam could get a new house built. The old log structure was built on a sharp hill above the flat bottomland along Rogers Creek and afforded a good vantage point to the cotton fields planted below. The narrow dirt country road came out from Meridian and passed beside

the Bozeman house on its way through the center of the community.

The road climbed the steep hill at the Bozemans' through a ravine, straight from bottom to top. After a rainy spell it became almost impassable. Old-timers have said that at those times it was a two-team hill; just two mules couldn't pull a wagon up.

As automobiles came into use in later years, folks coming out from town had to park their flivvers at the top, roll up their breeches-legs and walk the rest of the way to wherever they were going in Pine Springs. It remained that way until 1930 when the road was changed to the other side of Bozeman's Hill. The new road followed the contours of the hillside on the outside which made sharp curves in the road, but it had less grade and was easier to climb. The hill is still named the Bozeman Hill.

Public schools had been started in Mississippi back in 1869 but at the time of the Bozeman's arrival in the community, they were still somewhat disorganized. Each County Beat was allowed to have five schoolhouses in its district, the school sites being changed from year to year as party or parties made application to the School Board who, in turn, approved the sites.

Oak Grove School was started in the northern end of the neighborhood in 1880 but it was three muddy miles from Bozeman's home. Sam started in trying to get them to move the school to a more central location but met with some resistance because there were more children at the upper end. Finally, in 1884, the Bozeman School opened, holding its classes in a small one-room structure that had been originally built as a church in the 1860's by Mr. John B. Collins. (See Collins family history.) The teacher, who received \$109.95 for the four month term, was Miss A. C. Kilpatrick. The trustees of the school was Mr. Williams, S. Nives and Samuel J. Bozeman.

On February 22, 1888, the County School Board made an inspection trip of all the public schools in Lauderdale County and submitted this report on the Bozeman School:

"Visited Feb.22,1888, Bozeman School. Mrs. L.V.Griffin, teacher.

In thinly populated neighborhood, has nine pupils due to bad weather and roads. It is a frame building intended for church and

schoolhouse. It has four glass windows, is unceiled, floor open. Has a good stove and one large blackboard, but totally uncomfortable. Has plenty of water."

This school became Pine Springs Church and School in 1892, thus giving, at long last, the permanent name of Pine Springs to the community.

It must have been in the 1890's that Sam Bozeman built a fine home for Jenny and the children. He selected the site of the new house on his land in the southeast quarter of Section 16, south of the crossroad of the Pine Springs Road and another road that went toward Okatibbee Creek. He sent wagons down to sawmills that were below Laurel, Mississippi on the Leaf River to get good heart pine lumber and fancy beaded ceiling for wainscoting. It took all one summer to build the spacious house, which boasted a parlor, three bedrooms - with closets, a rather large dining room and a kitchen and pantry that opened onto a back porch. Heated by four fireplaces, the rooms were all big and had twelve-foot ceilings, as was customary in that day.

Sam was a loving father and was generous to his children. Eliza Bozeman, the oldest daughter, married Aaron Rodgers, a railroad man. Sam also built her a home next door to his new home, as a wedding gift. History has recorded this. What may also be true, although no facts can be offered, is that he also bought the lumber to build the home of their oldest son, Samuel Harrison Bozeman. This son had a home built of the same lumber that had come from

south Mississippi at about the same time.

In 1900 Samuel J. Bozeman, perhaps thinking about what would become of Jenny and his unmarried daughter, Dora, thought it was about time that he wrote his will. Independant to the end, he wrote it himself, poor perman-ship, spelling, and all. It was copied from Lauderdale County Will Book 2, page 19:

Last Will and testament of S.J.Bozeman,deceased:

I, S.J.Bozeman do this day give to Dora Bozeman folering described property to wit: The  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec 16 T 7 R 15 East being 80 acres less the patch from the fence back of S.H.Bozeman garden which he is to hav as long as he livs on same but he aint to put any one on place without consent of Dora. All so Dora is to hav blackman and buggy and W. R. Bozeman is to hav the  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  Se 15 T T R 15 being 40 acres all so to hav the  $E\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec 16 T 7 R 15 East and W. R. Bozeman is to take cear of his mother and Dora with the help of place as long as his mother livs and Dora remains single. Bud is to hav my pile hamer and outfit. Tomey is to hav \$14,00 the balance due him on his mair. Meady is to hav \$57.50 due him on his horse and Meady is to hav a cow and calf and Tom and Meady is to hav bed, not to hav eny thing till they marry. Ral and Dora is to divide the balance of house holé goods as soots them. Elic is to bee sole to help pay Meady. Eliza is to hav \$25.00 to bee pade after her ma deth all the above to bee pade when Dora and Rol can pay the same.

And as longe as S. J. Bozeman livs he has the write to sell and convey eny of the within mention property.

This December 15, 1900.

S. J. Bozeman.

Sam Bozeman died February 22, 1903 and was buried at the Beason Family Cemetery, which is across Highway 19N from the beginning of the Suqualena Road in the old Hookston Community, Section 20, T-7,R-15E. He was 65.

Children:

I. SAMUEL HARRISON BOZEMAN (Sammy)

Born: July 14,1865,Kemper Co,Ms. Died: Aug.4,1907,Pine Springs.

Married: SOPHRONIA ELIZABETH "PHRONIE" BEAVERS (1868-1949) of Alabama. *ca 1890*

Young Sam was six when he first came to Lauderdale County, was four-teen when the family moved to Pine Springs. He attended the county schools, which offered the rudiments of an education, but the school terms lasted only four months of the year, so much of the time he was helping his father on the farm or on his carpenter-bridgebuilding jobs. He must also have had time to hunt squirrels and to put out set-hooks on Okatibbee Creek and to do all the other delightful things that young boys find to do who grow up in the country.

As Sam became older he became more religious. It is not known which church the Bozeman family favored, but when he was a young man, Sam Boze-man was saved and joined the Church of God, or the Holiness Church. He felt that he had a call to preach and began to hold services around at various churches in Meridian and the county.

Around 1889 Rev. Sam met Miss Sophronia Beavers. She was a deeply religious girl with a strong faith and Sam asked her to be his wife. They were married (in 1889?) and their first child, a son, was born in

*Tall, slender man - young Clayton Howells of Calhoun Co, Miss. - married in Apr. 1890 - Mrs. Mary Ann & W. H. Howells - lived as Sam & Sophronia - children - Dora, Bud, Eliza, Tom, Meady, Ral, Elic, Eliza, Dora, Bud, Mary Ann, W. H. Howells*



*James L. Chandler  
Said to AM  
who sold to  
Sam Bozeman  
in 1892*

*Sam H.  
Built House 1905*

1891. They named him Joseph.

At about the same time that old Samuel J. Bozeman was building his home, Rev, Sam, the son, was building a home, too. The lumber for Rev. Sam's house also was brought by wagon from the mills in south Mississippi. Rev. Sam selected a house site on the east side of Pine Springs Road on the top of a little rise, located in the northeast quarter of Section 16. It was on land that his father had bought from James L. Chandler back in 1884. It could be that old Sam helped his son get his house built.

Rev. Sam Bozeman's home was about the nicest house that Pine Springs had ever seen. It was a white house, with full porches across the front on both the upstairs and downstairs floors. The materials and workmanship on the house were of the best, with beaded wainscoting used in each of the rooms and the outside made of heart pine like it would last forever. The stairs were in the hallway, and each room, even on the upper floor, had a fireplace. There was a large pantry room on the back porch that was later used for other purposes.

Rev. Samuel H. Bozeman continued with his preaching and went on a circuit, ministering to various churches about the county, but he was still able to tend to his farm and take care of his business at Pine Springs. He rented part of his land out to tenant farmers and he also had a big herd of cows from which he sold cream. His dream was to build a church in Pine Springs where he could stay home with Phronie and his children more of the time.

In June, 1904, Sam bought 39 acres from George W. Calvert, who had moved to Pine Springs two years earlier from Kemper County. The parcel of land that Sam bought had had a crude building on it that housed a general store, but the store had recently burned. Calvert, with no further use for the land, sold it.

Sam then talked his friend, Joe Wright, who was the son of "Uncle" Jimmy Wright, into buying the land and building another store there. The land was across the road from the Pine Springs School and was an excellent location for a store.

Joe Wright bought 38 of the 39 acres from Sam Bozeman. Sam kept the acre that was next door to the school where he wanted to build his church. First however, Joe hired Rev. Sam to build his store. The store, built in 1905, as best as can be determined, was a substantial wellbuilt building, painted white, complete with a porch on the front for the folks to sit and and talk politics, play checkers or just rest a bit while catching up on the latest news.

At this writing, nearly 85 years later, the old store is vacant and no longer in use, but it still remains in surprisingly good condition.

At last Sam Bozeman was able to build his church! He wanted a mighty church where all the people of the community, no matter what their faith might be, could come together to worship. The church was a very big building, compared with other country churches of the day. It had tall walls, must have been at least fourteen feet high, all made from straight knot-free heart pine lumber. Lumber like that is no longer available.

The one great room of the building has been estimated as fifty feet wide and sixty feet long. Two seperated front doors opened on the two aisles leading to the front alter between three rows of home-made pine benches. There was an old foot-pedal organ and a wood heater, although there was no way that church could ever get warm in the winter. Sam never

had a chance to finish up the inside of his church. There were cracks that the cold wind found inviting and one could look straight up into the open attic and see the underside of the roof, way, way overnead. Any heat that came from the heater was quickly dissipated into the rafters high above, which made the roaring fire a complete waste of good firewood.

For Rev. Sam Bozeman, however, it was a gift from God. He named it the Union Church, because in it all faiths were welcome. True, he didn't have it painted yet and the inside certainly wasn't finished, but he would keep on working and someday it would be an inspiring monument to the Lord.

On February 5, 1905, Sam's friend Joe Wright offered to sell Sam his 80 acre farm, now that he was a storekeeper and didn't need it any more. Sam thought perhaps he could increase his cotton acerage, make more money and finish his church, so he bought it. He had used up all the money that he had, so he borrowed money from Mr. G. W. Barr to pay for the land.

Rev. Samuel H. Bozeman was becoming well known and country folk from all around came to hear him preach in his new church. Some even drove their buggies out from Meridian to attend the services.

Mrs. Janie Nevada Glass, born in 1898, told of going <sup>from their home in N.W. land to</sup> to a protracted meeting at the ~~New~~ Union Church in ~~about~~ 1906. She was Janie Smith then, the daughter of James R. Smith, and she had two older sisters, Blanche and Novell.

The Smith family stayed with Bro. Jimmy Wright in his house across the road from the church during the week of the meeting. Bro. Wright's wife had been Neely Smith, a relative.

Miss Janie remembers well hearing Bro. Sammy Bozeman preach at the meeting. She describes him as being a good, Christian and a man of great faith.

At a later protracted meeting the Smith family came to Pine Springs again. This time they stayed the week at Rev. Bozeman's home, which was down the road from the church.

Janie remembered that Rev. Bozeman had a large herd of milk cows - he sold cream. Janie and her two sisters went with Pearl Bozeman (Sam's Daughter) to help with the milking before the church services. Rev. Bozeman took time to let all the little girls milk and help with all the cows.

On one occasion they got through milking and walked on through the woods to the church services. When they were almost to the church one of the girls happened to notice that Lovell had forgotten to take off her milk apron. The girls, for some reason, found this to be enormously funny that she was wearing her apron to church and all four of the youngsters got the "silly giggles".

They knew they weren't supposed to laugh in church, but of course, that just made the whole thing funnier. They had a hard time smothering their giggles and dared not even look at each other.

Miss Janie said the older folks "spoke" to them about laughing in church when they got home.

In 1907, Rev. Bozeman was away from home preaching. He was staying at a friend's home when he became too ill to return to Pine Springs. He died of Bright's Disease on August 4, 1907. He was returned to Pine Springs and was buried there in the Cemetery beside the school. He was 42 years old.

The next few months were dark times, indeed, for Sister Phronie. She was left with five young children to raise and no money to do it with. The following year Mr. Barr foreclosed on the farm that Sam had bought from Joe Wright, and Shronie had to make numerous trips to the probate court to settle the Bozeman estate. On January 23, 1909, an auction was held on the court house steps at which most of Sam Bozeman's land was sold. Some 320 acres in Section 17 and 20 were sold to W. A. Griffin, the highest bidder, for \$1520.

The highest and best bidder on the Union Church were the trustees of the church, Joseph T. Wright, James B. Wright, Thomas Wolfe, E. Kirby Smith, Felix G. Vincent, Seaborn M. Smith, W. Thomas Love, Jim D. Thead and Sophronia E. Bozeman. The deed read; One acre in the southeast quarter of northwest ¼ in Section 9, Bounded on north by school house lot, on west by public road, on east by east section line and on south by land of J. T. Wright. Their bid had been for \$3.50.

Sister Phronie had been able to keep her home and there she reared her five children. She was able to rent out part of their big house and also some of her fields, and with the help of the Lord, they made it.

Sister Phronie was thirty-nine years old and a handsome woman when she lost her husband. She had no money but owned a fine home and had access to a big church building that was just a-waitin' for a good preacher to take over. First one minister and then another came out to preach at the Union Church and buzzed around Sister Phronie like flies around a honey-pot, but she never felt inclined to show any of them any favor. She never married again, there was none that could take Rev. Sam Bozeman's place.

Sister Phronie lived to be 81 years old. When she died in 1949 they buried her beside Sam in the Pine Springs Cemetery.

Children: (All born in Pine Springs)

1. JOSEPH ULMER BOZEMAN 1891-19, m. Iris Hasty - 1915 <sup>FANE</sup>

Owned a resturant across from Meridian Railway Depot, later Bozeman's Cafe' was located directly in front of Lauderdale County Court house.

Children:

A. Fane Bozeman (dau) m. Sachse, lives Long Beach, Miss.

B. "Sonny" Bozeman (Robert?) m. (1) Elaine Pace, div. (2) BYRNE

Apr 7 1892  
June 14 1902

2. DORA BELLE BOZEMAN 1892-1981, m. (1) Marvin Chisolm (2) BYRNE  
Married Chisolm who lived on Barnhill Road in Pine Springs, moved to Ft. Worth, Tex. where he died 1952. Dora m. again, lived in California.

Children:

A. Clay Bozeman

B. Sue Bozeman m. Hines of Calif.

3. SUSAN "SUDIE" VIRGINIA BOZEMAN 1895-19, m. Albert Barker, Meridian, moved to Los Angeles, Cal., owned Barker Hotel in L.A. (100 rooms)

Children:

A. Edwin "Eddy" Barker m. Claire Robertson??

4. ALMA PEARL HARRIS 1896-1984, m. Enoch Lloyd "Pat" Harris, qv, on Dec. 15, 1914.

They bought farm nest to Pearl's mothers where they farmed and raised their family. Pearl, a devout Christian lady, has lived in Pine Springs all her life. (See Harris family history.)

Children:

A. Lloyd Bozeman Harris 1918-1991, m. Louise Watson. Owned Harris Ambulance Co. in Meridian, now retired.

B. Stella Belle Harris 1921- , m. Ralph M. Snowden, son of Curtis Green and Minnie (New) Snowden of Pine Springs, qv. Own land in Section 16, Pine Springs that once belonged to Samuel J. Bozeman, built minnow ponds, raised minnows, sold wholesale.

C. JOE ELMORE HARRIS 1925-, m. Nellie Sollie. Built Gen. Store and Bait shop on Pine Springs Road on site of Rev. Bozeman's old home, Home next to store. Pine Springs Store now leased out.

D. MARY ELIZABETH HARRIS 1927-, m. Aaron Clark, lives in Collinsville

E. DOROTHY VIRGINIA HARRIS 1933-, m. James Leo Davis, 1950. Lives in Jackson.

RUBEN E. Harris, Sr  
Pvt. Co. A 212 Inf Tng Bn. WWII

Dora +  
Sonny +  
Marvin +  
Elaine +  
Clay +  
Sue +

5. SAMUEL ALBERT "LITTLE SAM" BOZEMAN 1899-\_\_\_\_, m. (1)\_\_\_\_ Waller(2)??

A young boy when his father and grandfather died, he grew up without the restraining hand that he sorely needed. Full of life and energy, he tried Sister Phronie's Christian patience. His good buddy and cohort was Sam Bailey, a neighbor's son, who was about the same age. Together the two Sams instilled fear and dread into the hearts of the teachers at Pine Springs.

Little Sam married and lived in Texas.

Children:

A. SAMUEL ALBERT BOZEMAN, JR. 1924-

B. GLORIA BOZEMAN

C. BARBARA BOZEMAN

II. ELIZA BOZEMAN

Born: 1868, Kemper Co, Ms.

Died: 1903, Pine Springs.

Married: Aaron Woodberry Rodgers, qv, Oct 18, 1885, Pine Springs.

Born in Kemper County, Eliza was twelve when Samuel J. Bozeman moved the family to Pine Springs.

Eliza was nearly sixteen when she visited her half-sister in Meridian and met young Aaron Rodgers. He had left his home in Alabama and had come to Meridian and found work in a section crew that worked on railroad lines. He was enjoying life in the "big city" and Eliza found him to be highly entertaining. When she returned to Pine Springs, they started a correspondance, and then Aaron started to visit her at the Bozeman home. They were married in the fall of 1885.

Their first home was a small frame shack of a house that was on a little piece of land that her father gave her. A short time later, however, Aaron's work took him away from Meridian, and Eliza went along. They lived in railroad camps, living in tents or boxcars, wherever Aaron's job took them. Then the babies started coming and Eliza had to go home to Pine Springs twice while Walter and Talmage were born.

After Talmage was born in 1890, Eliza's health began to fail. She had caught TB, probably from the rail camps, where life was hard and Tuberculosis was a common thing. She never was completely well after that.

As she became weaker, she had to start spending more time at Pine Springs near her family. As a wedding gift, old Samuel Bozeman had built them a comfortable home near his new home, and Eliza stayed there when she was home from the camp. The family lent their support and helped her take care of her small children. Aaron quit his job a time or two to come home and farm but then he would run out of money and go back to work.

On September 8, 1897, Eliza's third ~~and last child~~, James Charles Rodgers, was born. Eliza was too ill to care for him, so the Bozeman family stepped in to help. Little Jimmie became the spoiled favorite of the family. Jimmie Rodgers grew up to become the famous "Singing Brakeman".

Eliza Bozeman Rodgers died in 1903. Aaron Rodgers continued to live in Pine Springs for several years and his history is elsewhere in this book.

Children: (For more detail, see Rodgers Family # 2)

A. WALTER RODGERS 1886-1953, m. Ruby Everett, Meridian. Was RR conductor.

B. TALMADGE RODGERS 1890-19<sup>45</sup>, m. Pearl Pope, Pine Springs Schoolteacher who boarded with Tal's Aunt Dora. He was Detective/Meridian Police.

C. JAMES CHARLES "JIMMIE" RODGERS 1897-1933, "Father of Country Music"

III. DOROTHY VIRGININA "DORA" BOZEMAN

Born: Aug.24,1869,Kemper Co, Ms

Died: Dec.23,1951,Pine Springs.

Married: Did not marry.

Was eleven when Bozemans moved to Pine Springs, where she lived the rest of her life.

After she graduated from Pine Springs Grammer School, she 'finished' at Cooper's Institute, a private academy for women at Daleville (in Lauderdale Co.) She held diplomas certifying her to teach English and music.

There was some rumor that she had been in love with one of George Lockard's sons, but he was killed on his job and she never married.

Nolan Porterfield wrote:

"To outward appearances, Aunt Dora was the archetypal old maid, one of those thin, sharp-faced spinsters who seemed to pass immediately from childhood to barren middle age, invariably mirrored in the collective family consciousness as a frumpy stick figure poking about in sun-bonnet and gingham apron, tending gardens, raising chickens and someone else's children, ministering to generations of kin - martyred, in all the wrong senses, to a motion not her own. Beneath that appearance there was, happily, another, vastly different Dora Bozeman. True, she came to the role of Old Maid with all the likely credentials, right down to the inevitable tragic episode of a youthful lost love. But that only proved, if anything, that Dora took comfort in the old cliché about loving and losing being better than never loving at all. It signified, too, that she had at least had a youth, however painful, and had emerged from it whole - a warm, delightful lady, full of humor and patience, apparently free of the self-pity and narrowness that so often afflict those who find that life has delivered something less than promised. Keen intelligence was a Bozeman family trait, and Dora had her fair share...."

Dora was an accomplished, if not inspired, pianist, and taught music briefly. On May 3, 1893, a post office operated briefly in the community which was named Bozeman. The Bozeman Post Office had Miss Dora Bozeman for its postmistress, which she ran from the front room of the Bozeman home until the community was placed on a rural route (Bailey,Rt.1).

Aunt Dora took care of the Rodgers boys after her sister died. She inherited the Bozeman home from her father at his death in 1903. The house she found more than ample for her needs, and she rented out part of it. She rented to teachers from the Pine Springs School, and Mrs. John Lovett's parents, Mr and Mrs. Robert Brown, lived there for a while when they were older.. Talmadge and Rita Smith rented a room from her when they first married. Many others lived there from time to time.

When Dora died they buried her in the Pine Springs Cemetery near her brother, Samuel Harrison Bozeman and his wife.

Children: None.

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1. The Life and Times of America's Blue Yodeler, Jimmie Rodgers, Nolon Porterfield, The University of Illinois Press, Chicago,1979,pg.14.



IV. JOHN JOHNNY BOZEMAN

Born: 187\_, Lauderdale County Died: Six years old.  
Nothing is known of the brief life of this son.

V. MEADY JAMES BOZEMAN

Born: 1875, Lauderdale Co, Ms. <sup>m. 1901</sup> Died: June 9, 1924  
Married: NANCY SUSAN CHANDLER (b.1876), <sup>N. 1901</sup> dau. of James L. and Nancy Lacey (Sanders) Chandler, neighbors and friends of the Bozeman family.qv.

Meady and Nan Bozeman lived in Meridian. After he died she married J. B. Hyde.

Children:

1. LOUISE MARJORIE BOZEMAN 190\_-19\_-, m. Thomas Hugh Johnson (b.1893)1922.  
Children:
  - A. Nancy Johnson 1922-
  - B. Barbara Ann Johnson 1929- m. Harold Duane Wellman
  - C. Gloria Gay Johnson 1932-
  - D. Thomas Hugh Johnson, Jr. 1935-
2. JAMES "JACK" EDWIN BOZEMAN 1905-19\_-, m. Aileen Antriken of Memphis.
3. EVELYN BOZEMAN 1910-1912, "Little Evelyn" bur. Rose Hill Cem, Meridian.

VI. THOMAS LEE BOZEMAN

Born: March 4, 1877, Lauderdale Co, Ms. Died: July 22, 1929 Bur. Pine Springs  
Married: ROSA LEE HASTY (1890-1943) of Thompsonville, Ala.

As a batchelor, owned a 'modern' barbershop in Meridian, where young men collected to swap stories. Lived upstairs. Married, had one child.  
He and his wife are buried at Pine Springs Cemetery. Lived <sup>in Meridian</sup>.

Children:

1. HORTENCE TAYLOR BOZEMAN 1914-1985, m. <sup>now living in P. Springs, Miss.</sup> M. Gerome Harvey, 1933. 485-8587  
<sup>Grandmother of Vicki Seay</sup> Hortence wrote songs under nom de plume of 'Virginia Shine', her grandmother's maiden name. <sup>Taught music, had photographs recorded, "Blue Flame Cafe",</sup>  
Children:
  - A. Thomas Gerome Harvey 1936-
  - B. Dorothy Ann Harvey 1942- m. Landrum.

VII. WALTER RALEIGH "RAWL" BOZEMAN

Born: 1883, Pine Springs Died:  
Married: "A Catholic girl" (in New York??)

Rawl apparently left home when he was young, went to New York and did not maintain close contact with his family. From a biography of Jimmie Rodgers, Rawl's nephew who was renowned singer of 1920s and 30s, I found references to this Bozeman.

While recording in New York in 1927, Jimmie Rodgers visited his "Uncle Rawl, a flamboyant, black-sheep member of the Bozeman clan." In 1929, Rodgers wrote from Vicksburg, Mississippi to "his 'rowdy' Uncle Rawl Bozeman in New York." In 1932, while traveling, Jimmie Rodgers and his wife, Anita, had a stopover in Baltimore to visit "Jimmie's legendary uncle, Rawl Bozeman".

We do not know what 'Uncle Rawl' did for a living, but from this meager information, we can assume that he had an interesting life! One member of the family reported that he married "a Catholic girl" and had two adopted daughters. Children, unknown.

## CHAPTER IV.

MEADY BOZEMAN—1745—1809.  
1809

Born in 1745, was eleven years older than my grandfather, Joseph Bozeman, and was his first cousin. After the Revolution they moved to Georgia. Between the years 1807 and 1809 they both lived in Twiggs county. Meady Bozeman died in 1809, at the age of 64.

Notice this name, "Meady." I find it in many branches of the Bozeman family. "Meady"—where did they get this name? It may yet be a clew to trace the lineage far back into the past.

It is said that the above Meady Bozeman married twice. The name of one of his wives was Chloe Nelson. His children were: 1. Howell, born 1780; 2. Meady, born 1784; 3. Luke, born 1791; 4. John, born 1793; 5. Sally, born 1795; 6. James, born 1796; 7. Nancy, born 1798; 8. Elizabeth, born 1799.

I. Howell, born 1780, moved to Georgia, south-east part, and married Miss Nancy Cook, say in the year 1803, and lived not far from Savannah, and afterwards in Milledgeville until 1810, when he moved to Mississippi, Amite or Pike county. He was a

## BOZEMAN FAMILY.

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brave soldier in the war of 1812, and was mortally wounded at Pensacola, Florida. His name is on the Pension list at Washington city. *Built State House @ Milledgeville*

## CHILDREN OF HOWELL AND NANCY COOK BOZEMAN.

MAN.

1. Meady, born in Georgia 1804; 2. Howell, born in Georgia 1805; 3. James, born in Georgia 1806; 4. Thomas, born in Georgia 1808; 5. Margaret, born in Georgia 1810.

1. Meady, son of Howell and Nancy Cook Bozeman, born in Georgia about 1804, married Miss Rachel Sanders in Mississippi, by whom he had three children—Ezekiel, born 1832, and died in C. S. army; Nancy, born 1834, who married Mr. Roberts and moved to Texas, where his sons are wealthy stock men; Joseph, born 1836, died in C. S. army. Meady Bozeman's second wife was Miss Huldah Trefau, of Hinds county, Mississippi, whom he married in 1839. There were no children by this marriage. He died near Edwards' Depot, in Hinds county, in 1840. His widow married Mr. Brooks.

2. Howell, of whom I have no further information.

3. Janca, born in Georgia in 1806, married Miss Mary Crider in 1826; resided in Hinds county, Mississippi, till his death, April 8, 1848. He was a man of great energy, and esteemed by all as a noble citizen and elegant gentleman.

# JAMES AND MARY CRIDER BOZEMAN'S CHILDREN.

(a) *Howell*—the name given me, and no more.  
 (b) *Louisa A.*, born in Hinds county, Mississippi, October 29, 1829, where she married Andrew J. Cassidy, a most excellent gentleman of Irish descent, whose kindred generally spell the name "Cassidy," as did his family in former days. He is a man of talent, influence, enterprise, energy, striking personnel and large business success, a planter on the Mississippi river, a Methodist and a Christian. His wife, Louisa A. Bozeman, was reputed to be the most beautiful woman in Hinds county at the time of her marriage. In addition to beauty she possessed marked business tact, combined with pleasing manners. She is a Baptist, and a devout Christian, baptized by the saintly Holloway, of Jackson. While I write these lines she lingers upon a bed of extreme illness in this city of Meridian, a patient, heroic, resigned sufferer. An extraordinary woman.

## IN MEMORIAM.

At the residence of Mr. Wm. D. Hurlbutt, Meridian, Miss., died Mrs. Louisa A. Bozeman Cassidy, Dec. 10th, 1885, aged fifty-six years, two months, and one day. She was the daughter of James and Mary Crider Bozeman, the wife of Andrew Cassidy, and the mother of Mrs. Eugene C. Hurlbutt and Mrs. Jennie C. Dixon, a blessing and an honor to them all, to her sex, and her race. Her life was a benediction to this earth. Her departure was to us a hallowed scene, to her an end of suffering, a triumph of faith, and an entrance into paradise.

## BOZEMAN FAMILY.

The funeral next morning from the First Baptist Church was conducted by the pastor, her kinsman, and the author of these sketches. Hymn by the Choir: "I would not live away." Scripture read: Rev. vii: 9-17. Prayer. Remarks. Hymn by the Choir: "There is rest for the weary." Then tenderly and reverently we bore her body to Rose Hill Cemetery in the western suburbs of Meridian, and laid it away in her grave on the southern slope of the hill, to rest till the morning of the resurrection. The following chaste and elegant lines written upon her death by her daughter Mrs. Eugene C. Hurlbutt, are published at the author's request.

"Like a frail though beautiful bark tossed upon the heaving bosom of the mighty deep, with no rudder or pilot to guide it, is the soul freighted and tortured with the sins of accumulating years launching into the great mysterious Beyond, or like a worn and burdened pilgrim passing through the valley of the shadow of death with no gentle Shepherd's rod or staff to guide, no Savior's loving arm to comfort and uphold, is the unbeliever's departure from earth, but not so the Christian. My precious mother was a true child of God. Though weighed down by the heavy hand of wasting affliction, yet she bore the excruciating pain of long, weary months with a Christian fortitude that was sublime. What patience, what cheerfulness! To her were most fitly applicable the words of the patriarch: "But He knoweth the way that I take; when He hath tried me I shall come forth as gold."

"As we stood by her side in that last extreme hour, and beheld her countenance radiant with hope, beaming with an intelligence surpassing human understanding, and armed with a faith that knows no daunting, waiting eagerly waiting for the last fleeting breath that would sever the brittle thread that bound her to earth, we could but exclaim, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" We love to dwell upon the hallowed scene with all its sacred memories. There is no wish in my heart to make memorable her death by an exaggerated eulogy upon the many noble traits of her character, but it is no more than truth to say she was a very superior woman. Kind, true, faithful, and endowed with marvellous energy she found it a delight to minister lavishly to the comfort of her family and especially to those whom fortune had not favored. "distributing to the necessity of saints, given to hospitality."

# SKETCHES OF THE

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"Her image so beautiful, so Christly, is ineffably, carved upon the tablets of our memory, and will ever remain a monument of her noble virtues, and as a beacon light to guide us to heaven. The recollection of her does not come back to us as a wall, but rather like the echoes of a sweet cheerful song saying, 'Come up higher,' or like the rays of a morning star beaming so brightly the while and then fading into the glorious light of day. While on yonder hillside lies the perishing form of her we loved so well, and the green sod upon her grave receives the tribute of many tears, yet we would not call back her radiant spirit from the shining shore, where she stands with hands outstretched to welcome us home, and enjoys that which she craved most of all, eternal rest in the presence of a glorified Redeemer." They have two children:

MRS. EUGENIE CASSITY HURLBUTT,

wife of Wm. D. Hurlbutt, Meridian, who with their two bright, noble children, Guy and Jennie, are members of my congregation. And

MRS. JENNIE CASSITY DIXON,

wife of Mr. Dixon, of Terry, Mississippi. They have six promising, pretty children.

These are all a noble posterity of Howell Bozeman, fine-looking, intelligent, cultivated, pious, well-to-do, and married into the best families of the State. They are Baptists, and ornaments to their denomination, their kindred, and their country.

An intimate acquaintance of six years has only

tested and confirmed their many virtues.

(c) *Chester*, born December 31, 1830, married first Mrs. Sallie York, *nee* Davis, by whom he had two children, Lilly, born 1867, and William, born 1869.

## BOZEMAN FAMILY.

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He married secondly Miss Mattie ——— They live in Louisiana.

(d) *Sylvester*, born April 17, 1832, in Hinds county, Mississippi, married Miss Ollie Bridges, by whom he had three children, James, Frank, and Edward. His wife and son Frank are dead. He is a large, handsome man, said to be very much like Dr. Nathan Bozeman of New York. He lives in Bolivar county, Mississippi. A farmer.

(e) *Hastings*, lives unmarried in Hinds county, where he was born May 24, 1834. A farmer.

(f) *Liada*, born October 7, 1836, married J. Augustus Dunn, of Hinds county; moved to Texas, where both died, leaving three children, Ferdinand Augustus, born 1860—one of my correspondents—Frank, born 1862, and William, born 1863. I have been informed that they are excellent people.

(g) *Matilda*, born October 30, 1838, in Hinds county, married Thomas Hensley, from Tennessee, and died without children.

(h) *Joseph*, born 1740, died an infant.

(i) *Rufus*, born July 11, 1842, died in 1862.

(2) *Eura*, born September 14, 1844, married Geo. Gourlay in Hinds county, Mississippi, in 1863. They have two children, John, born 1864, and Walter, born 1881. Their home is near Terry. Her husband was born in Ireland, in Cookstown, in county Tyrone, May, 1837. His brother, the late

Dr. John E. T. Gourlay, of Jackson, Louisiana, was a prominent man. The Gourlay family were originally from Burgundy, France, thence to Scotland, then to Ireland, and finally to America.

(k) *James*, born in Hinds county June 1846, where he still resides—unmarried.

4. *Thomas Jefferson*, son of Howell and Nancy Cook Bozeman, was born in Hinds county, Mississippi, September 2, 1808, married Rachel Parker in the same county in 1835. She died and was buried there in 1841. There were three children from this marriage—John Walton, born 1836, Preston Dodds, born 1838, Julia Ann, born 1841. In 1842 he moved to Louisiana, Caddo parish, where he married his second wife, Elizabeth Ford, in 1845. There two children were born, Melissa A., October 30, 1846, and William Thomas, April 5, 1848. In 1849 he moved to McLennan county, Texas. While there two other children were born, Euretacy, December 26, 1849, and Henry Richard, April 25, 1852. In 1854 he moved with all his family across the plains to California, Fresno county, and while crossing the plains in New Mexico their daughter Susan was born, July 4, 1854. Three other children were born to them in California—Martha, January 9, 1856; who died in her seventh year, Mary, December 22, 1860, and Charles, April 5, 1864, who died less than a year old. Thomas J. Bozeman was a farmer all his life, a member of the Baptist church,

an upright, honorable, and pious man. He died in Fresno county, California, September 4, 1870, leaving a widow, four sons and five daughters in that State.

#### THOS. J. BOZEMAN'S CHILDREN IN CALIFORNIA.

(a) *John Walton Bozeman*, born in Hinds county, Miss., August 31, 1836, married Susanna Hendrey in California, December 13, 1864. He is a farmer and stock raiser in Tulare county, Cal., not a member of the church, but holds the Baptist doctrine, a Democrat all over, eyes and complexion dark, weight 140 pounds, one of my correspondents, in good circumstances financially, does not drink or swear. They have at this date, 1885, eight living children, three sons and five daughters, Preston Leander, born 1865; Julia Ann, born 1868; Armazilla Ematilla, born 1871; Jesse Davidson, born 1873; Melissa A., born 1876; John Wesley, born 1879; Hattie Belle, born 1881, and Rachel, born 1883. All of them have dark eyes and complexion. He says that his grandfather, Howell Bozeman, built the first State House in Milledgeville, Ga.; whether as mechanic, contractor, or architect I do not know. It is said to be a fine Gothic edifice, erected between 1800 or 1806. John Walton Bozeman with his wife and eight children live at this time, 1885, in southeast California, Tulare county, Lemoore Post-Office.



(b) *Preston Dodds Bozeman*, born in Hinds Co., Miss., December 25, 1838, married Sarah J. Draper in California, March 4, 1855. They have seven children—Thomas Jefferson, 15 years old; Emma, 13; Della, 11; Nora, 8; Lena, 5; Preston Dodds, Jr., 3; Casha, 1—two sons and five daughters. These have blue eyes. He is 6 feet in height, 150 pounds in weight, of light complexion, a farmer and stock raiser, a Methodist and a Democrat. He and family live in southeast California, Tulare county, Selma Post-Office.

(c) *Julia Ann Bozeman*, born in Hinds county, Miss., June 30, 1841, married James McCrory in California in 1856. He died in 1873. They have four children—Martha McCrory, who married Mr. Kirkland and now lives in Montana, and Las two children, both girls; Ambrose Haison McCrory, who married Martha McHenry in 1884; Frances McCrory, who married Dr. Cline in 1884 and lives in Fresno county, Cal., Post-Office Fresno Flat; Charles McCrory, 16 years old.

Julia Ann Bozeman married her second husband, John Hunt, and lives in Fresno City, Fresno county, Cal. They have one child, Winnie by name.

(d) *Melissa A. Bozeman*, born in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, October 30, 1846. Her mother was Elizabeth Ford. Melissa married Isaac Allen Green in California in 1860. They have nine children—Lydia, who married Jacob Greps in 1881, and has

two children, a son and a daughter: Thomas Douglas Green, now 18; Eliza, 16; Mary Angie, 13; William Andrew Green, 12; Isaac Allen Green, Jr., 11; John Walton Green, 8; Charlotta, 6; Leo Green, 4. These all live in southeast California.

(e) *William Thomas Bozeman*, born in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, April 5, 1848, married Mrs. Mary Murphy in California in 1873. They have seven children, six girls and one boy—Nellie, 13; Lizzie and Liza, twins, 11; James and Dinah, 9; Susan, 7; Myrtle, 5. They live at this date, 1885, in southeast California.

(f) *Eurettacy Bozeman*, born in Dallas county, Tex., December 26, 1849, married first Geo. Kenick, in California in 1866. He and his two children all died. She married second James Green, brother of Isaac Allen Green, in California in 1873. They have one boy and two girls—John Green, 14; Melissa, 12, and Eva May, 9. Eurettacy Bozeman departed this life January 20, 1883, and is buried at Selma, California. She, with her sister Melissa, was a member of the Campbelite Church. Her disease was consumption.

(g) *Henry Richard Bozeman*, born in McLennan county, Tex., April 23, 1852, married Dinah Potts in California in 1879. They have one son and two daughters—Winniford, 6; Iva, 4, and Henry Osteen Bozenugn, 1. They live in California.

(h) *Susan Bozeman*, born in Mexico, July 4, 1834, while the family were crossing the plains on their way to California, married Jacob Wright, May, 1868, in California. They have two sons—Fred. Wright, 11, and Ed. Wright, 8.

(i) *Martha Bozeman*, born January 9, 1865, in Fresno county, Cal., died November 30, 1862, in her 7th year.

(j) *Mary Bozeman*, born in Fresno county, Cal., December 22, 1862, married Zachariah Hunt in 1878. They had one son—Berta, 7, and one daughter, Euretacy, 5. The husband died in 1872, and she married William Near. They live in Fresno county, Fresno Flat, Cal.

(k) *Charles Bozeman*, born April 5, 1863, in California, died February 24, 1874, less than a year old.

The above are the eleven children of Thomas J. Bozeman, son of Howell and Nancy Cook Bozeman and grandson of Meady Bozeman, of Milledgeville, Ga. They and their descendants live in California, Fresno and Tulare counties, southeastern part of the State. Of his daughters and their descendants living there are 29. Of his sons and their descendants living there are 36. Of these 36 Bozemans living in California 11 are males and 25 females. The name is not likely to become extinct in that region.

5. *Margaret Bozeman*, daughter of Howell and Nancy Cook Bozeman, born in Georgia in 1810,

married Mr. Roberts. They moved to Texas, where she died. Their sons are large stock raisers in that State, and frequently sell droves of horses east of the Mississippi river. They are reputed to be men of enterprise and wealth.

11. *Meady Bozeman*, son of Meady Bozeman, Sen., and brother of Howell Bozeman, born 1834; 1784 married Miss Lucy Carroll, a woman of active, vigorous mind, great strength of character, and as fearless as a heroine. She was baptized by Rev. N. L. Clarke, of Miss. Meady Bozeman moved from Georgia to Alabama, Dallas county, where he lived several years, thence to Mississippi, Kemper county, 1840. There he resided 27 years, till his death in May, 1867, in his 73d year. He was a farmer and a very fine mechanic. Houses that he built in Dallas county, Ala., fifty years ago, are still pointed out with pride as the work of Meady Bozeman. A large, fine-looking man, with blue eyes and ruddy face, full of life and jest, he was the delight of young people even in his advanced years. His grave is in Kemper county, Miss., about forty miles northwest of Meridian.

#### CHILDREN OF MEADY AND LUCY CARROLL BOZEMAN.

(1) *John M. Bozeman*, born about 1818 in Georgia, twice married, killed in an altercation in Mobile,

Ala., left two children, one by his first wife, named Meady Bozeman, who died 1884 in Sharkey county, Miss., the other by his second wife, named John Bozeman, who is in Kemper county, Miss.

(2) *Thomas Bozeman*, born 1820, same, married first Miss Elizabeth Bounds, second Miss Nancy Hicks. Has two sons—Meady A. Bozeman and David Bozeman; also two daughters—Jane and Elizabeth, all in Kemper county, Miss., Herbert Post-Office.

(3) *Meady Bozeman*, born 1822 in Alabama, married Miss Gibbons, moved from Kemper county, Miss., to De Soto Parish, La., after the war, Pleasant Hill Post-Office. Has three sons—James, Robert and Pitt.

(4) *Larry Bozeman*, born 1824, married Mr. Greenville Griffin, and lives in Mississippi bottom.

(5) *Nancy Bozeman*, married Simcon Tucker.

(6) *David Bozeman*, married Miss Portier, died during the war, left three daughters in Chickasaw county, Miss.

(7) *Sallie Bozeman*, married Mr. Jackson Hicks and lives in Arkansas.

(7) *Samuel Bozeman*, a fine mechanic and a farmer, born in Dallas county, Ala., 1838, married a widow, Mrs. Robinson nee Shines, after the war, and lives in Lauderdale county, Miss., eight miles northwest of Meridian. He takes contracts from the county for building bridges. Has six children.—

Samuel Harrison, born 1866; Eliza, born 1868; Dora Virginia, born 1870; Meady James, born 1875; Thomas, born 1877; Walter Raleigh, born 1881. His family and mine visit each other.

III. *Luke Bozeman*, son of Meady and Chloe Nelson Bozeman, born about 1791, died in Florida. I have not been able to get other items about him.

IV. *Col. John Bozeman*, son of Meady and Chloe Nelson Bozeman, born April 17, 1793, died suddenly at Capt. Koss', where he and his wife had stopped for the night, at White Springs, Fla., November 10, 1848, in the 56th year of his age. He had eaten a hearty supper and then died after a few minutes' illness, and was buried at Swift Creek Church, three miles from his residence in Florida. He was a man of noble qualities, energetic, public-spirited, wealthy and popular. When a young man he was for years Superintendent of the Georgia penitentiary and Colonel of militia. He married three wives. The first was Miss Elizabeth Murphy, of Georgia, April 25, 1818, in her 20th year, born December 25, 1798. Soon after their marriage her father sent them ten likely young negroes as a present, which she sent back with spirit, because her father had said to Col. Bozeman that he (Murphy) never made his bed till he was ready to lie down, meaning that he would not make his will till he came to die. She departed this life February 20,

1836. Col. John and Elizabeth Murphy Bozeman had eight children.

1. *Cornelius Murphy Bozeman*, born April 3, 1819, and died May 23, 1881, in Hawkinsville, Ga., where he was a prominent merchant. He left several children and grandchildren. The writer corresponded with him. His first wife was Elizabeth Farmer. A son is named Franklin H. Bozeman, a merchant.

2. *Eliza Ann Bozeman*, born November 11, 1820, married Samuel Buffington October 15, 1735, died May 10, 1848, leaving four children, two of whom are now dead.

3. *John Bozeman*, born June 27, 1823, married Cassimira Catherine Andrew, a Minorelian or Creole lady, by whom he had two children. His marriage was on December 27, 1855, and his death in the summer of 1868. I know nothing of his children.

4. *Sarah Francis Bozeman*, born December 25, 1825, married Samuel Buffington, her brother-in-law, in 1849, had two children, both of whom died. The date of her death is not known to me.

5. *Milton Bozeman*, born April 18, 1827, died in Yankee prison in Elmira, N. Y., about the close of the war, 1865. He was never married.

6. *Amanda Melvina Bozeman*, born April 18, 1830, died December 26, 1834, a little child.

7. *Emily Caroline Bozeman*, born December 17, 1831, died August 18, 1839, a child.

8. *Albert Bozeman*, born February 15, 1834, died March 10, 1853, in his 20th year.

These eight are all dead.

Col. John Bozeman's second wife was Miss Rebecca Jewell Pratt, a Yankee lady from New Hampshire, born April 23, 1808, married February 4, 1837, died February 17, 1838, one year after her marriage. Her mother was a Miss Jewell; and Miss Pratt was a double first cousin of Hon. Marshall Jewell, Governor of Connecticut for three terms, Minister of United States to St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1873, and Postmaster-General of United States of America from 1874 to 1876, whose daughter married Arthur M. Dodge, son of the noble William E. Dodge, of New York, renowned for his wealth, his piety and his benefactions. Col. John and Rebecca Jewell Pratt Bozeman had but one child.

1. Henry Marshall Bozeman, born in Hayneville, Ga., November 1, 1837. He was raised in Hawkinsville, Ga., where he now resides, owning a residence worth three or four thousand dollars, and engaged in bookkeeping as a profession, a sober man, drinking no kind of liquors, and a member of the Methodist Church. He has married twice. His first wife was Miss Abbie Wilcox, daughter of Capt. Thos. L. Wilcox, of Irwin county, Ga., whom he married March 30, 1868. She died February 3, 1869, leaving an infant son--Abbie Murdock Bozeman. His second wife was a sister of his first

named India Willcox, whom he married November 4, 1869. Their first child is Franklin McCrinion Bozeman, born September 7, 1870. Their next living child is Sarah Rebecca Bozeman, born October 12, 1879. Henry Marshall Bozeman, of Hawkinsville, Ga., and Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge, of New York, are second cousins. Miss Sarah B. Pratt, from Vermont, Col. John Bozeman's third wife, was a first cousin of his second wife and a lady of fine culture. He married her in 1838. After Col. Bozeman's death she taught in the higher departments of the Female Baptist College, Cuthbert, Ga., in 1854-5, Rev. A. T. Holmes, President. He was afterwards my own teacher, honored and beloved. Later in life she married Maj. I. F. Baxter and lived in Memphis, Tenn., where she died December 13, 1882. She was one of my valued correspondents.

V. Sally Bozeman, daughter of Meady and Chloe Nelson Bozeman, born about 1795, married her second cousin, David Bozeman, son of my great uncle, Luke Bozeman, thus connecting the Meady Bozeman branch again with the Samuel Bozeman branch. She died in Florida in 1835, forty years old, leaving four children. The first, Elisha Ward Bozeman, born 1823, died 1863, left nine children in Madison county, Florida. The second, Mary Ann, a twin, born November 25, 1825, married C. F. Reichert about 1850 and died February 7, 1880, leaving five children, near Monticello, Fla. The third, Matilda

Caroline, a twin, born November 25, 1825, married James Edward Bozeman, a twin, her first cousin, a son of Luke Bozeman, Jr. She now lives in Terrell county, Ga., near Dover, and has two sons and four daughters, genuine Bozemans I should say; for their father and their mother, also their grandfather and their grandmother, were all Bozemans. The fourth, Luke Bozeman, born 1827, lives now, 1883, in Cedar Keys, Fla., and has seven children.

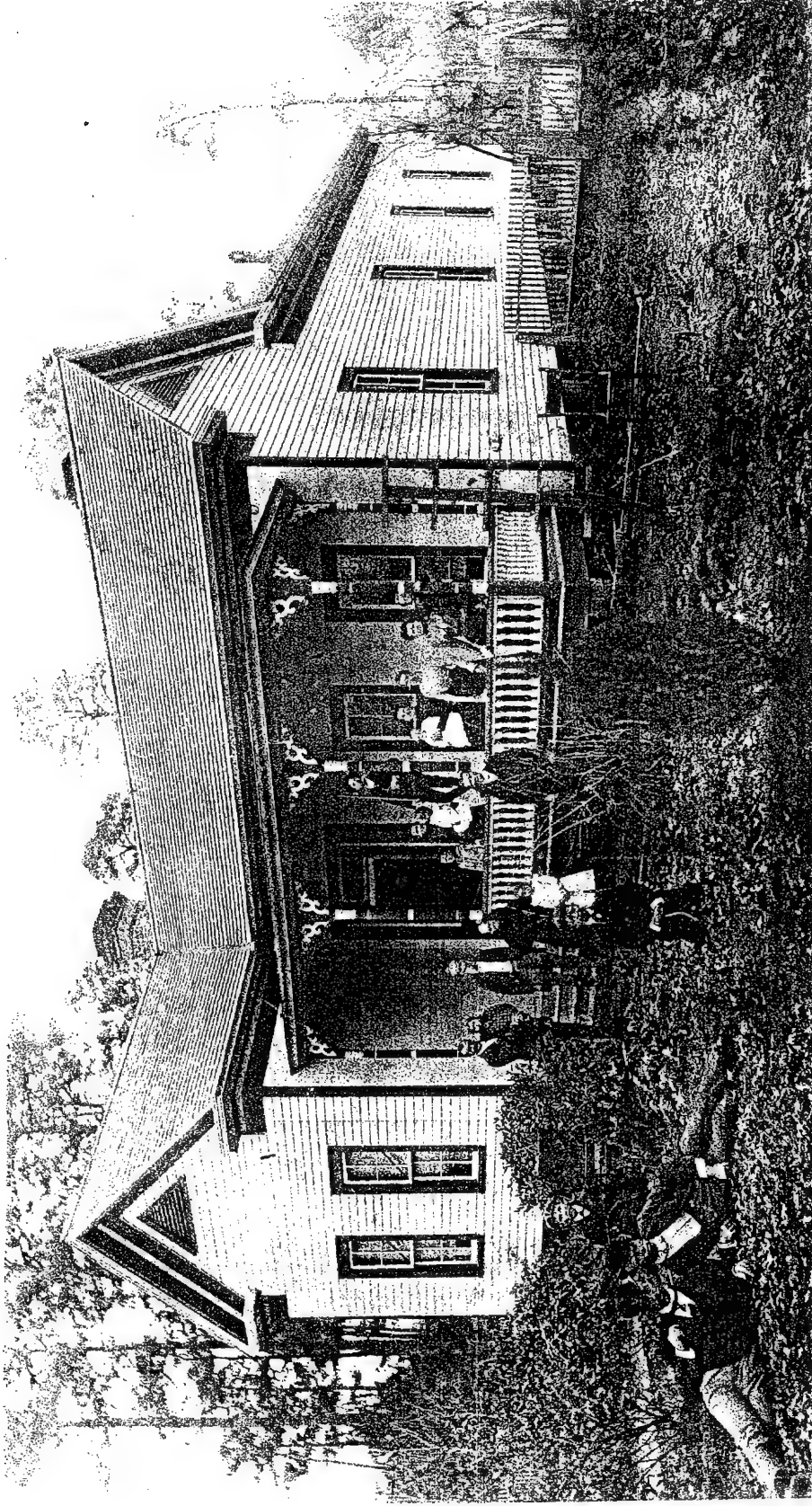
VI. James Bozeman, son of Meady and Chloe Nelson Bozeman, born 1796, died of Tyler Grip in Hawkinsville, Ga., November 28, 1843, forty-seven years old. He was never married.

VII. Nancy Bozeman, daughter of Meady and Chloe Bozeman, born about 1798, married Jesse Webb. They had a son, Samuel Bozeman Webb, who moved to Amite county, Miss., where his sons, W. Y., Dr. John W. and Pleasant Webb, now live, carrying on the drug business in Liberty. A large family connection reside in that county. They are people of worth and influence.

VIII. Elizabeth Bozeman, daughter of Meady and Chloe Bozeman, born 1799, died 1823, August 12th, at the age of 24. She married a gentleman named Barron. More of her history I have not learned.

This is the sum of my present information of the Meady Bozeman family, April 28, 1885.

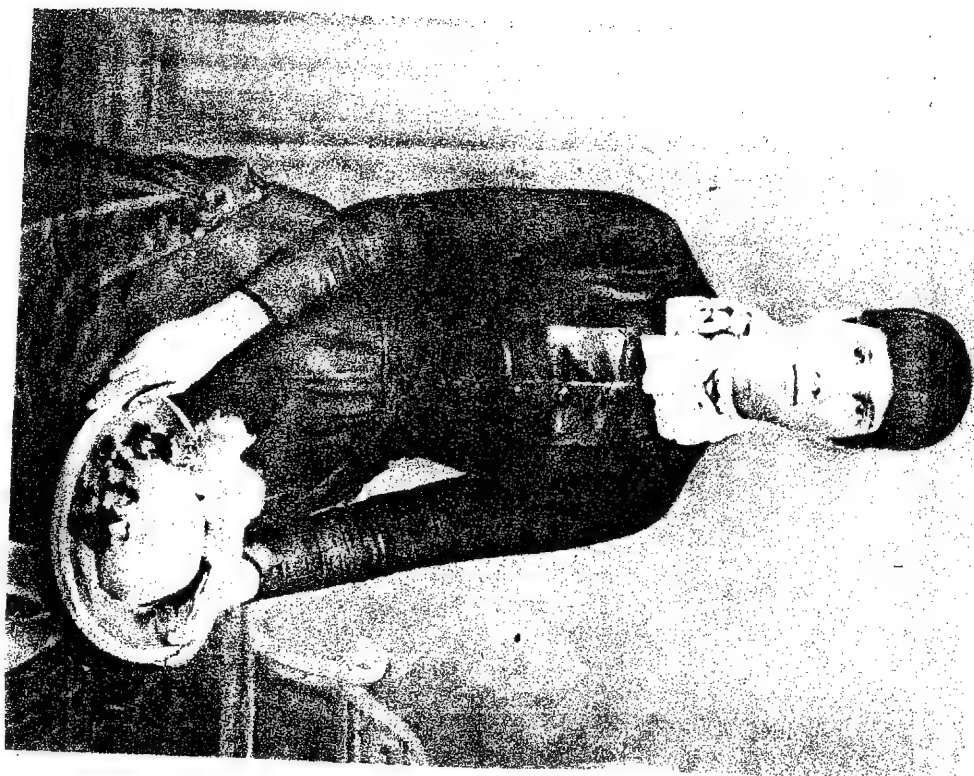




HOME OF SAMUEL J. & VIRGINIA BOZEMAN, Pine Springs, ca 1897: Two dandies sprawled at left front are bachelor sons, Meady and Rawl (Walter Raleigh). Lad directly behind them is Joe, son of Sam. H. Bozeman. Samuel H. Bozeman is holding his daughter, Pearl, at front steps next to his father and mother, Sam J. and Virginia Bozeman. Young Dora Belle is standing next to her grandmother, Virginia, and her Uncle Tommy is on her other side. Tal Rodgers is on his knees near the front of the picture.

On the porch, L to R: Susan, dau. of Sam. H.; her mother, Sophia, holding baby Sam; Standing on railing is Walter Rodgers holding his grandfather's Civil War Rifle; Eliza Bozeman Rodgers holding baby Jimmie Rodgers, then Aunt Dora Bozeman and another lady and little girl, members of the Bozeman clan, names unknown.

Print in  
on page



One of the Bozeman daughters. Eliza ~~or~~ ~~Bozeman~~

ELIZA Bozeman's wedding

picture

(Negative available)



Jimmie Rodgers Birthplace

(<sup>Barrow</sup>~~can get original photo~~)

(can get negative)



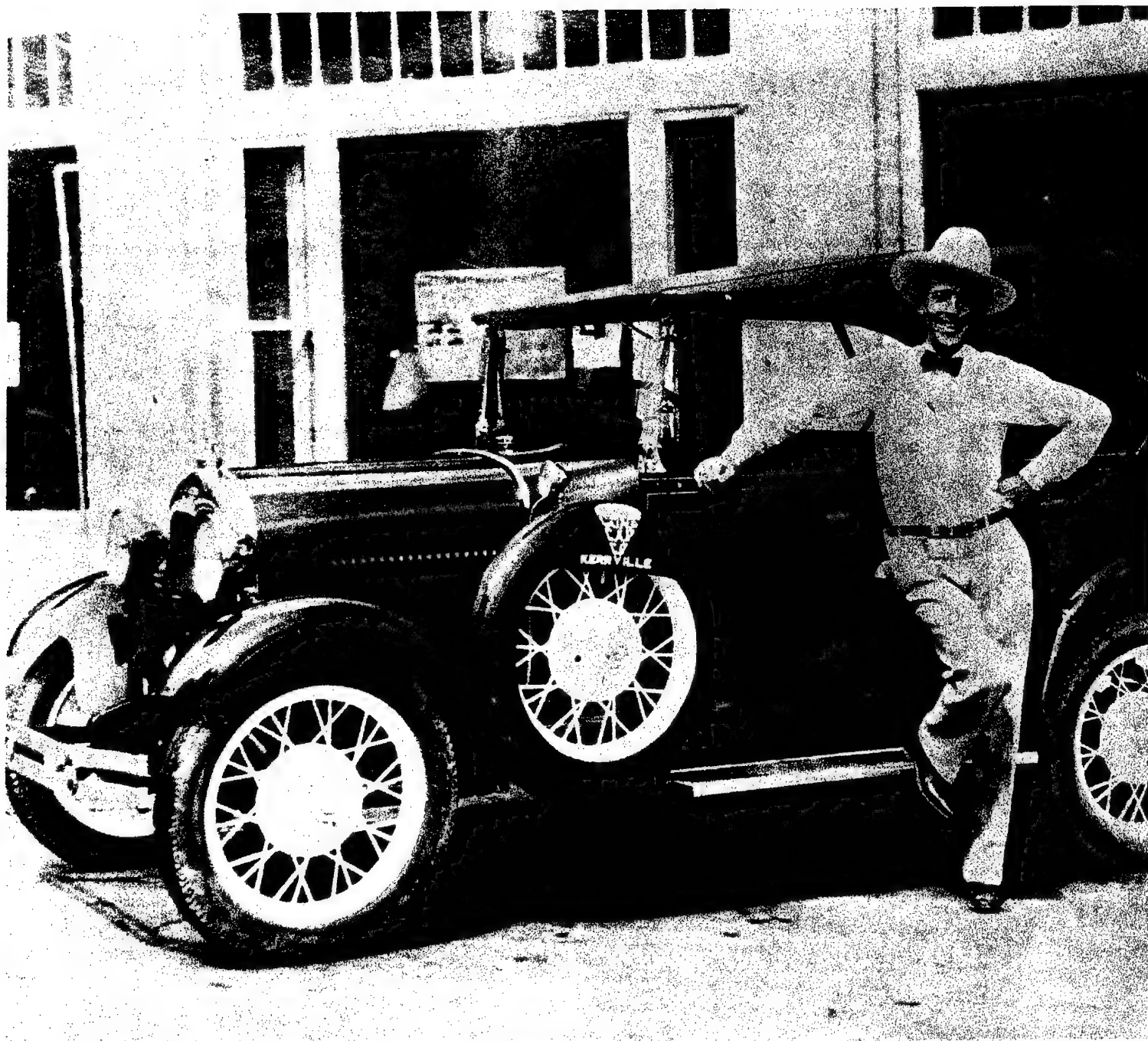
Jimmie Rodgers



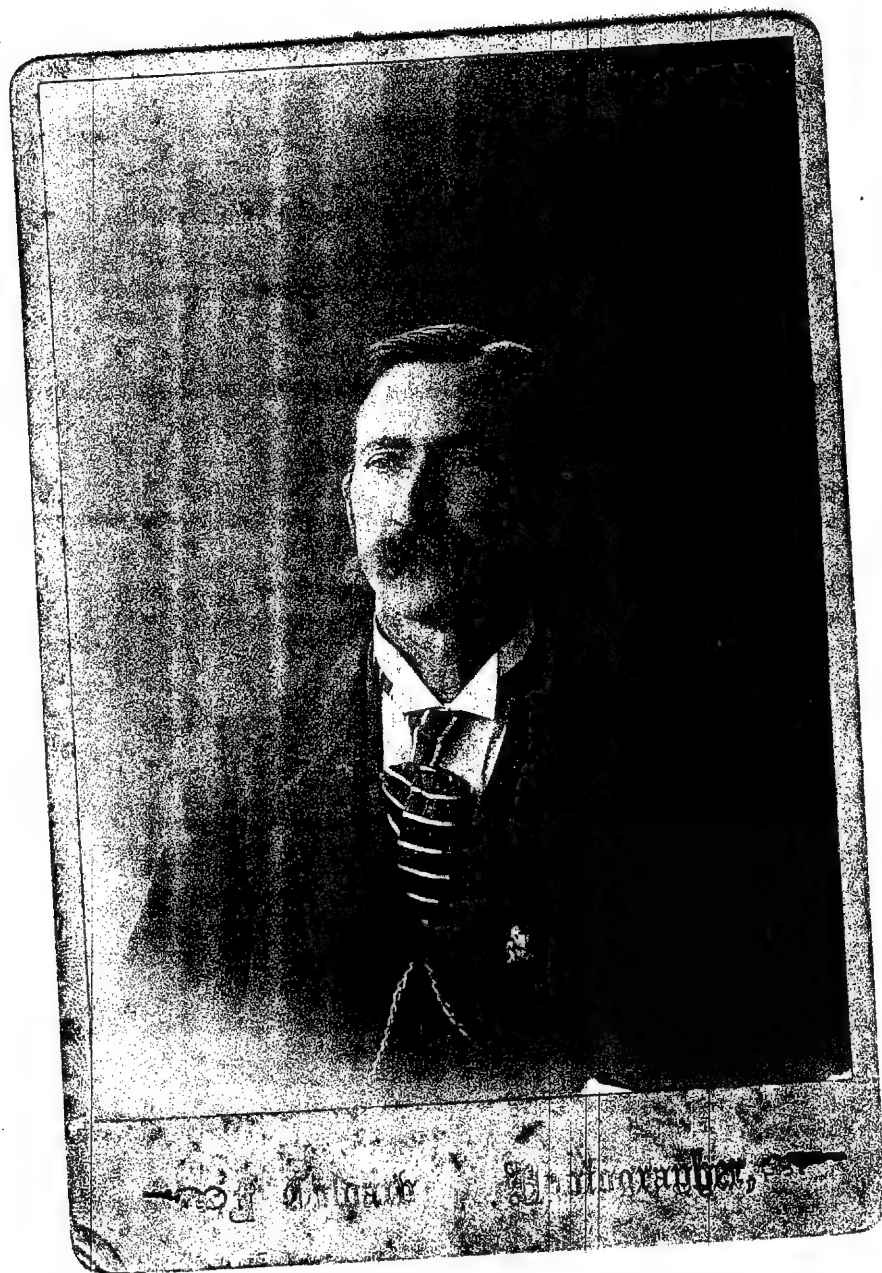
MISS DORA BOZEMAN, graduating from  
Cooper Institute in 18—.





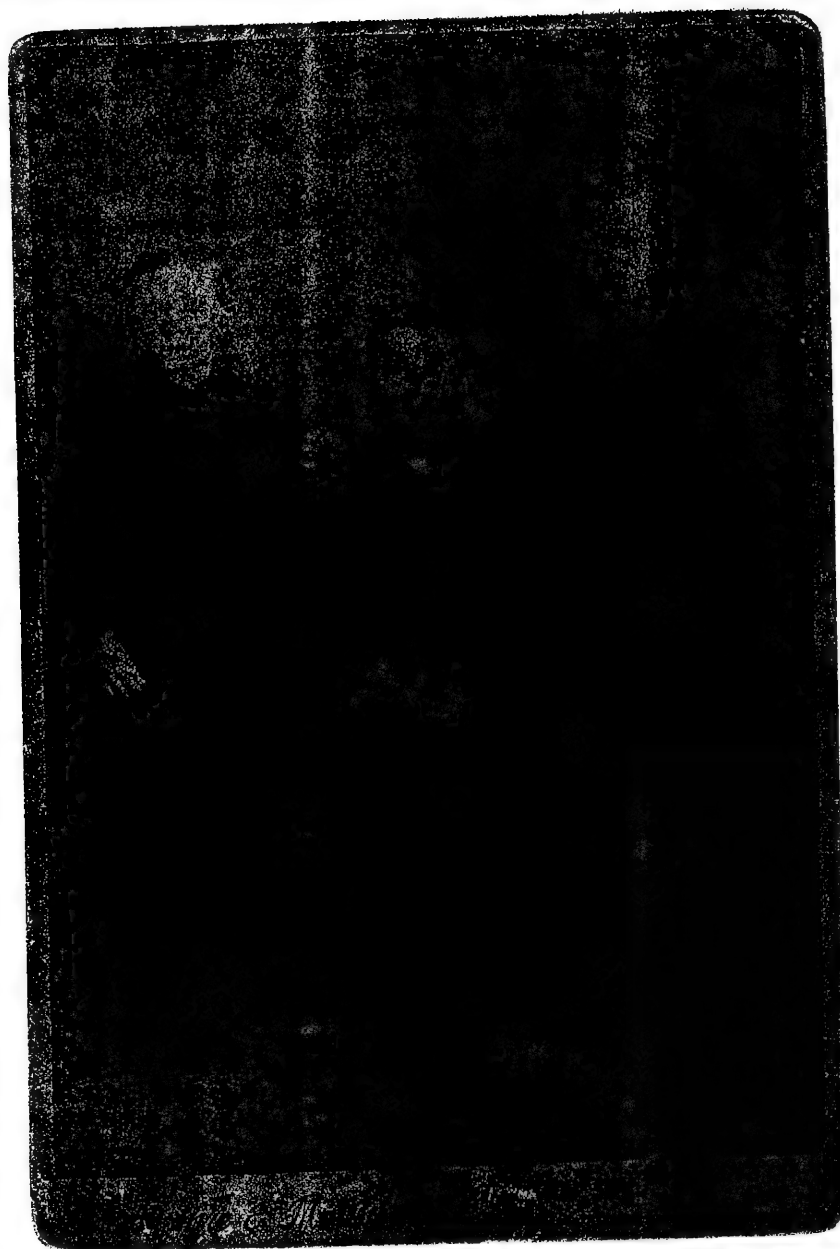


Frank Lloyd - "The Gold of the South" - "The Times" - 1914

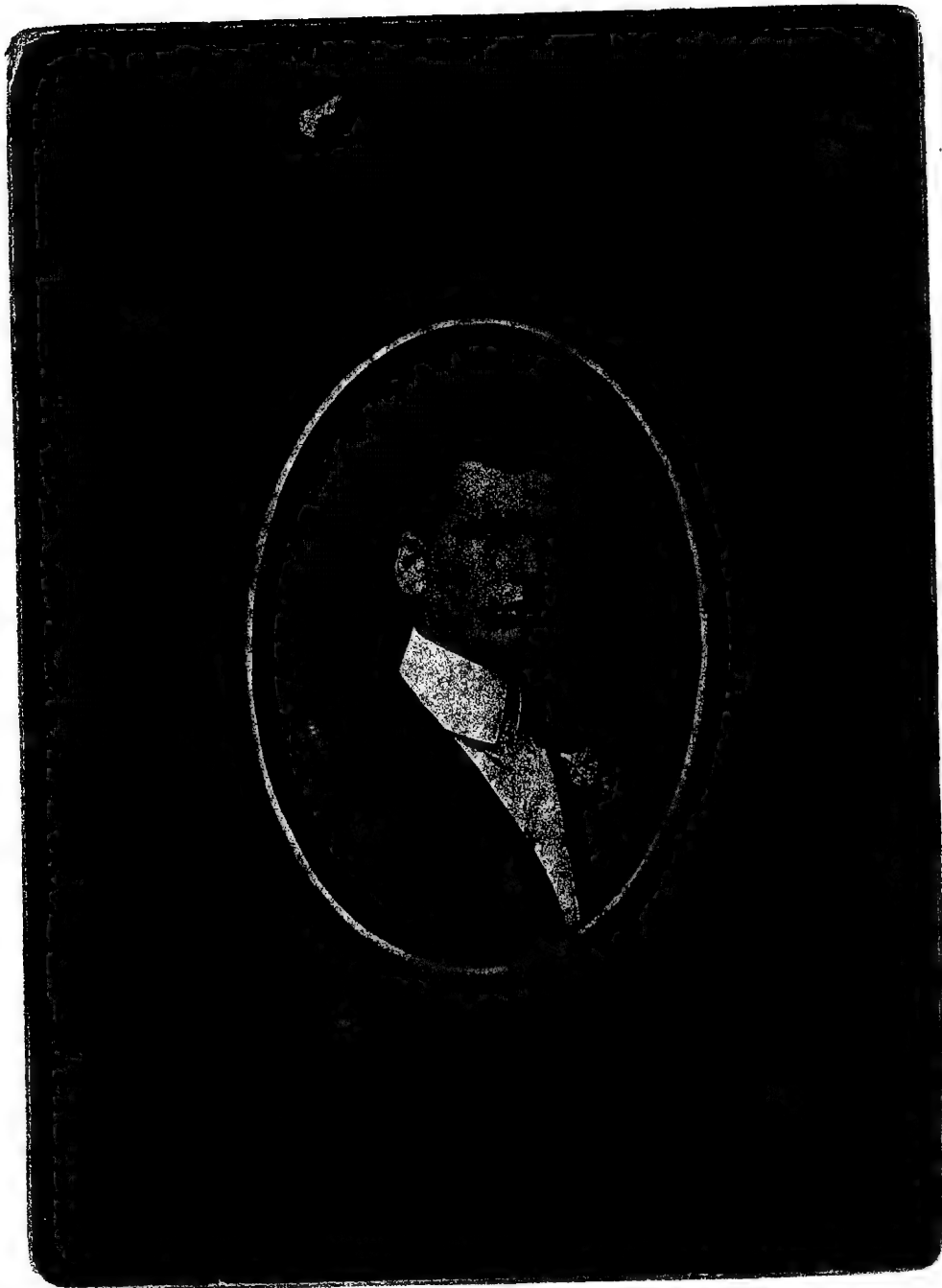


*Aaron Woodbury Rodgers*



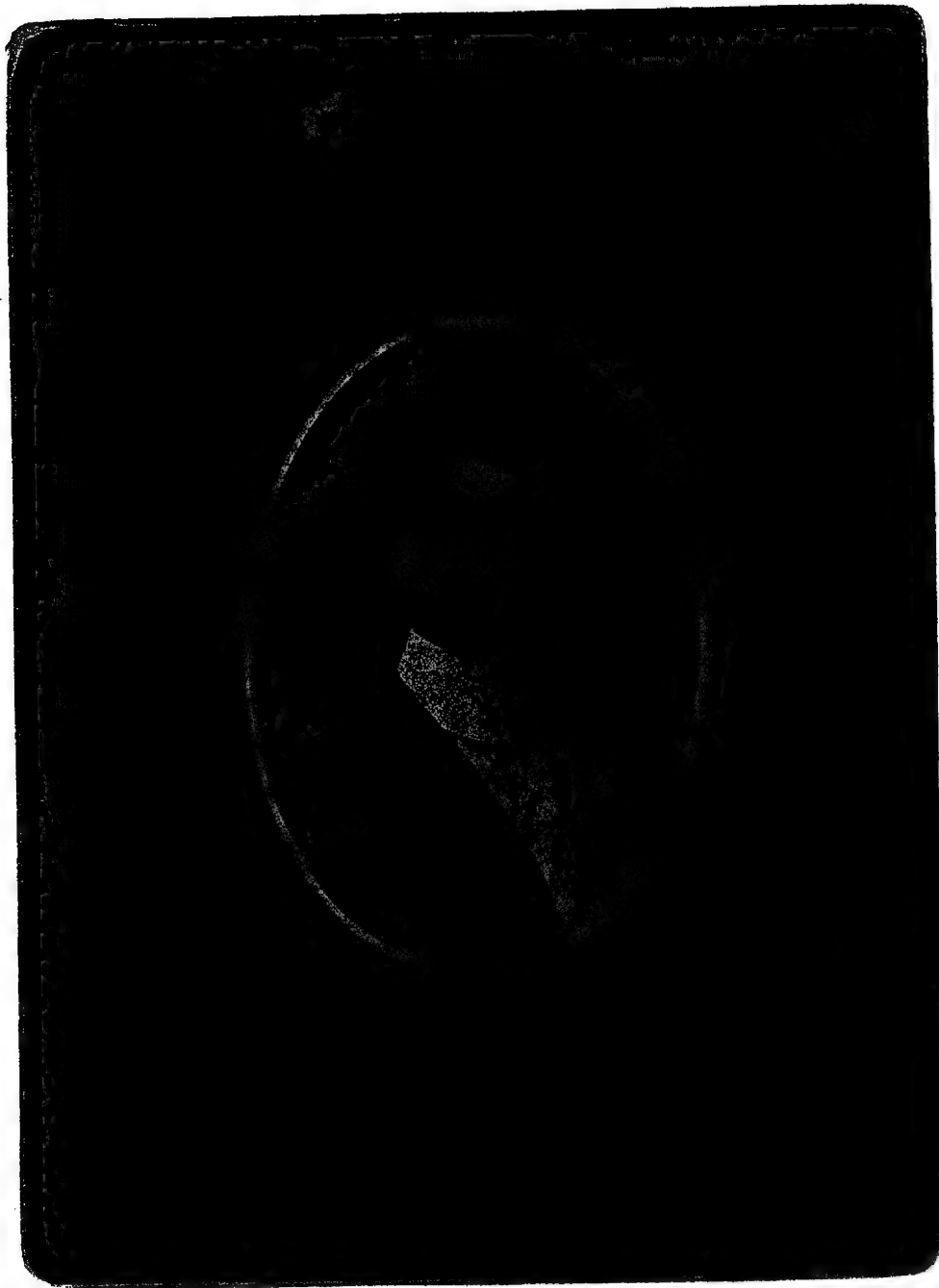


Eliza and Aaron Rodgers  
three sons - Walter, Tal, and Jemine



Meade Boyeman, son of Sam. J. Boyeman



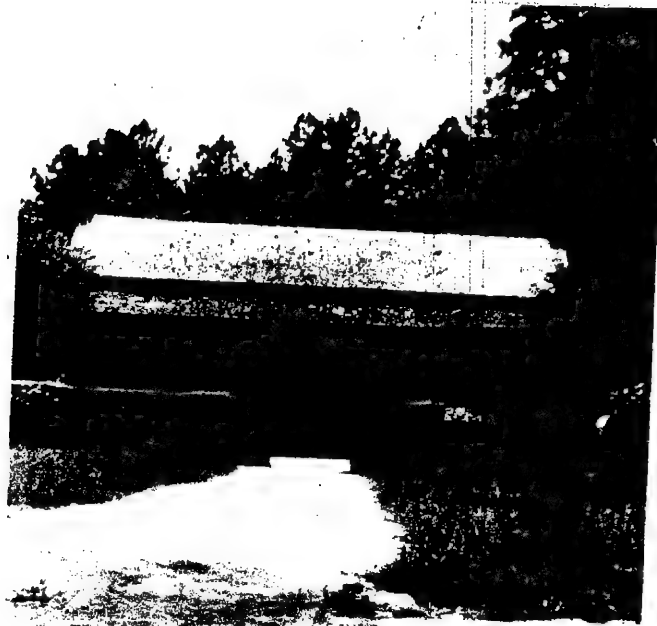




Jimmie Rodgers



*Sam J. and Virginia Shine Bozeman*



Home of Aaron and Eliza Rodgers,  
Birthplace of Jimmie Rodgers -

(~~Can be used as original copy~~)

Can get NEGATIVE

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printed as full-sized page)

# 'Holiness' has special meaning for Church of God congregations

By Barbara Boyles

The Meridian Star

12-14-85

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According to the Rev. Bill Glidewell of Parkview Church of God and the Rev. James K. Williams of the First Church of God, "holiness" is a term that has many connotations to many people.

"We are not a Pentecostal church, even though we are a 'holiness' church," Williams said. He said that people frequently confuse The Church of God Reformation Movement, with headquarters in Anderson, Ind., with Pentecostal or "full gospel" churches. He pointed out that Pentecostal and holiness are terms that mean different things, yet are often used interchangeably.

"The Pentecostals believe that speaking in unknown tongues is evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit or evidence that you are a 'spirit-filled Christian,'" Williams said.

"Tongues are a viable language through which the gospel is communicated. We believe, like most traditional Protestants, that on the day of Pentecost, Paul spoke in a language that everyone heard in his own language," Glidewell said.

Williams pointed out that in his church the term "holiness" means living a holy life.

The Church of God Reformation Movement differs from both Pentecostal and traditional Protestants in that the adherents do not have a formal "joining" process.

"We do not believe in joining the church as evidence that you are a Christian. We have an open

fellowship. We give an invitation, not to join our church, but to believe, at the end of our service," he said.

Glidewell said, "We never open the doors of the church. The Holy Spirit is the only one who can invite people to join and Christ is the door."

The pastors explained that people who choose to worship with them may attend services and at the end of six months, if they show that they are Christians, they will be given voting rights and the right to hold offices and teach. There are no formal processes for joining and there are no letters to be transferred.

The church also differs from some other churches in its beliefs about the millennium, or reign of Christ at the end of the Earth. The pastors pointed out that although the church holds specific beliefs, members may differ in their own beliefs about the matter, since it is something that is purely speculative.

The men pointed out that their church is a "New Testament" one and they try to abide by New Testament directives.

Glidewell said the Church of God Reformation Movement does not consider itself the "only" church.

"No single fellowship contains the whole of the body of Christ. There are Christians in every church. If the Lord were limited to our little fellowship, he would have a problem," the minister said with a laugh.

## Church of God Reformation movement

By Barbara Boyles

The Meridian Star

12-14-85

Among the 185,500 members of the Church of God Reformation Movement in the United States are some well-known figures.

Charles Schulz, creator of the Peanuts gang comic strip, grew

up in the Church of God and is still active.

Veteran recording artist Doug Oldham and Grammy winners Sandi Patti and the Bill Gaither Trio are all members of the denomination.

A Church of God minister, Marvin Forbes, encouraged the young Charles Schulz, then

known as "Sparky Schulz," to submit cartoons to the Saturday Evening Post magazine. At that time Schulz was virtually unknown and Snoopy, Charlie Brown, Lucy and Linus were as yet "unborn." The work for the Saturday Evening Post led to more and more cartoons by Schulz.

## has well-known members

Gloria Gaither, herself the daughter of a Church of God minister, is an active participant in the church and was quoted in the Saturday Evening Post as saying, "The beautiful, non-credal openness of the Church of God gives all of us the freedom to

find a scriptural base for our own life."

She also said the Church of God does not rely on formal doctrinal statements; instead, it allows "creative people to function in a living, nonrestrictive, non-legalistic manner" with an emphasis on unity.



Staff photo

The Rev. Bill Glidewell, the Rev. James K. Williams

## Movement gave birth to church

By Barbara Boyles

The Meridian Star 12-14-85

The Church of God Reformation Movement began in the Spring Hill community in 1888 after W.W. Bradley and Sammy Bozeman began preaching in the area.

The Church of God Reformation Movement was part of a "holiness" movement that was sweeping the nation at that time.

After early believers were cast from their own churches, they build a small frame church of their own. According to church history, local residents threw rocks into the wagons of the members as they left the church and cut down trees across the road so they couldn't make their way to worship. Once a mob of 75 to 100 armed men came to the home of J.M. Smith, who was acting as host to the pastors. The preachers hid in the woods until tempers cooled.

At the time the new church was built, the congregation did not have a deed to the property and a few years later they were forced to move off and leave the structure. They moved the church about eight miles south of Meridian and named it the Jones Chapel Church of God.

The church is still in existence today and is one of five in the area.



THE STORY OF SILOAM  
A HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

by

JUDGE WILBUR E. DEARMAN

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VOLUME ONE

*Harris*  
*Bozeman*

*Sephoronia*  
*Beauver*  
*wife of Rev.*  
*Sam'l H. Bozeman*

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June, 1963

Lauderdale County Department  
of Archives and History, Inc.  
11th Floor - Court House Annex  
Meridian, MS 39301

## DEDICATION

This Story of Siloam, A History of the Church, is dedicated to the author's first Sunday School Teacher, Mrs. Candis Walker Holder. It can be truly said of her that "she lived in a house by the side of the road, and was a friend of man." Mrs. Candis Holder and her husband, John Holder, lived at the Cross Roads of the Black Bluff-Lauderdale Springs Road and the Livingston-Gaston Road, near Siloam Baptist Church, and they never turned a stranger from their gate. They were not rich people, except in spirit and love, but they reared three families in addition to their own. There were many children, and many friends to "arise and call her blessed."

from  
W. R. Ezell  
Nov. 2, 1966

hungry loved ones. It would be hard to describe the conditions in which other Vaughan found his flock. It would be but an utterance to say that people were hungry. Due to the blockade, salt became as precious as gold. The women dug up the floors of their smoke houses, where salt had drifted through in the better years, and watered and strained it in order to provide this necessary commodity for their families. The returned veterans, as battered and as worn as they were, set out in the very late Spring to plant a crop. They gathered everything that they had in order to make one last effort. The price of cotton in England was very high, due to the scarceness caused by the war. It was the feeling that they could perhaps come back, and they did make a crop. The war had been fought among gentlemen, but it was the riffraff, the "Carpetbagger" and the "scalawager", who had little if any part in the fighting, who took over the reins of government. Reconstruction began, Federal troops were sent into the South, and these troops confiscated the precious cotton that these veterans had raised. Many of these men gave up, for they were to see something more dreadful than the war. Former slaves, not yet removed one generation from savagery, were given the right to vote, and those who had fought in the "rebellion" were disfranchised. The Negro, the "carpetbagger", and the "scalawager" had taken over the South. The people of the Sileam Community had become poor, very, very poor. Only a very few exceedingly wealthy men, such as Mr. Marcus Parker, had held on to any thing. These few did the best that they could for their neighbors, but that was very limited. As one example, Mr. Clarke Hitt returned from the war with one arm gone, and later developed tuberculosis from his exposures in the conflict. Mr. Parker's son in law, Churchill Gibbs, had also contracted this disease, and succumbed of the ailment. His young widow, upon the learning of Mr. Hitt's condition, gave him the medicines that failed to cure her husband, and Mr. Hitt recovered. Clarke Hitt had no veterans benefit, no bonus, and no reward, but he fitted a long handle to his plow, which he pitted under his arm, and earned a living from his soil. He not only did this, but he reared a fine and distinguished family. Elisha Dearman, with a lame leg, and whose father, Solomon, had previously owned eleven slaves, (20) became so poor that he lived in a log hut, with a dirt floored kitchen. There were no schools nor educators, except a few roving teachers, such as Professor Tobe Adams and Professor Frank Watson, of whom there is not too much known. They were both very able men, and taught by the rule of the "hickory stick". It was said that Professor Adams got drunk a few

19. Seale, Thomas F.: *History of Shorts Church*, p. 10  
20. Orphans Record: Book 1, p. 526 (Probate Office, Sumter County, Ala.)

and Canada, was made an Ambassador to a Foreign Country, as a Member of the United States Congress, as Judges, as members of the State Legislature, President of an International Service Club, as Lawyers, as Doctors, and as ministers.

For seventeen long more years after the War, Brother C. C. Vaughan nurtured his flock through the dark and trying days of Reconstruction, which era will go down in history as the most disgraceful period in the life of this Nation.

In 1882, the tired feet of the beloved pastor could tread no more, and the Reverend F. M. Pond was called as pastor of the Sileam Baptist Church. Brother Pond was born in Anson County, North Carolina in 1833, and he died April 10, 1895. He came to Alabama when he was a boy, and in early life joined the Baptist Church at Gaston. When this Church was disbanded after the War, he joined Zion Baptist Church by which he became licensed to preach. Brother Pond organized the Center and Beulah Baptist Churches, and he served as pastor to the Clear Creek, Concord, Cuba, Hopewell, and Rehoboth Baptist Churches. Reverend Pond was modest and unassuming in his life, but his work in the pulpit was brave and courageous; and where ever he preached, he gained souls for Christ. It has been said of him that "he was pure in all of his social relations, modest but genial with friends and companions, chaste in his conversation, and cheerful among men." (21) Reverend Pond had a stroke in 1885, and was out for three years. During this period, Reverend Thomas Woodward served for two years, and Reverend Al Beavers served for one year. In 1888, Brother Pond resumed his duties, and served until his death on the 10th day of April, 1895. (22)

Reverend Al Beavers was the father of Dr. James Beavers, Mr. George Beavers, Mr. Ab Beavers, Mrs. Sallie (Dennis) Stephens, Mrs. Bell (John) Stallings, and Dr. Will Beavers.

After the death of Brother Pond in 1895, Reverend A. J. (Jack) Hearn was called to become the pastor of the Church. He had been the pastor at Shorts Baptist Church, and was a strong man in many respects. Mr. Hearn was a very zealous advocate for missions and temperance, and stressed that in his work very much. (23) Brother Jack Hearn was a controversial figure in many respects, and often took part in partisan politics. He was to serve the Church for only about eighteen months, but during this time, the membership was to witness another split in the Church. During a heated campaign for Governor of the State in 1896,

21. Seale, Thomas F.: *History of Shorts Church*, p. 7  
22. Bigbee Baptist Association: 100 Anniversary Edition, p. 35  
23. Seale, Thomas F.: *History of Shorts Church*, p. 11

# School Census 1885

Mr. Rozeman

Ramuel H.	19	M	W
Charles	16	F	W
David L.	14	F	W
Wladia	10	F	W
Thomas W.	8	M	W

Mr. Williams

George	12	F	W
William L.	11	M	W
Maggie	9	F	W
Zac	5	M	W
Jan	7	M	W

Mr. Brown

Charles	14	F	W
Margaret	13	F	W
Willie R.	11	M	W

# Bozeman built own 'Tara' east of Toomsuba in 1840s

(EDITOR'S NOTE: History lies off the country roads in the Meridian area. Paths to the Past, prepared with the assistance of Jim Dawson, director of the Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History, will explore that past.)

By Nan Fairley

The Meridian Star

A plantation home suggestive of all the dramatics of a *Gone With the Wind*-type saga still stands in Lauderdale County.

The plantation home built by Peter Bozeman east of Toomsuba — probably in the early 1840s — is one of only a few that survived the hardships brought on by the War Between the States.

Captain Bozeman, a local magistrate, farmer and professional soldier, ran a large, slave-operated plantation on the surrounding acres prior to the war.

He would eventually go down in the annals of county history as the leader of the Toomsuba Rifles, a volunteer company organized in 1861.

Today, the home is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Crane, who plan to maintain and restore the historic structure.

Over the years, modern conven-

iences such as plumbing and electrical wiring have been added. But, the basic construction consisting of hand-planed wooden walls and ceilings remain intact throughout the home.

Although the home lacks the classic ornamentation of the mansions built in the Mississippi Delta during pre-Civil War days, its simple, colonial-type construction is typical of plantations homes that once stood in Lauderdale County.

Captain Bozeman, who moved into the Toomsuba area in 1836, carved out a plantation that would become a social center with regular picnics, barbecues and parties during the prosperous antebellum years.

Lumber for his spacious home was cut by slaves near a water mill situated near a creek. These hand-dressed boards, 24 to 26 inches wide, remain a prominent feature of the home. A cook house and slave quarters once stood behind the main house.

Early in 1861, Captain Bozeman would leave his plantation behind to serve in the Confederacy. He helped organize the Alamucha Guards, 13th Mississippi Regiment, CSA, and served as captain of the 100-member unit.

# Paths to the Past



His plantation served as a mustering point for the local regiment, with stirring speeches delivered from the front porch before the area volunteers left for Civil War battlefields. In May, 1861, the company assembled at the home to bid farewell to relatives, sweethearts and friends before they marched off to war.

A description of the dramatic scene staged at the Bozeman plantation was left by Dr. J.P. Welch, another area plantation owner, in his family history.

He wrote, "At the formation of the Volunteer Company, Mrs. Martha T. Welch was requested to address the company. She therefore composed and delivered a very patriotic and cheering speech to them. Miss Sophronia McElroy presented them an appropriate flag. Mr. Benjamin Portis and myself also made remarks."

After the glorious send-off to what Dr. Welch wrote was considered "nothing more than a jolly frolick," the dark days of the Civil War began to take its toll. According to Dr. Welch's account, "Instead of a grand holiday frolick, it turned out to be an awful four years of carnage, for there were over two million lives sacrificed in the contest...."

From a Lockhart train station, Captain Bozeman's men traveled to Corinth, where the 13th Regiment of Mississippi Volunteers was organized. This regiment, composed of 10 companies of 100 men each, fought throughout the war and participated in many battles, including the Battle of Bull Run.

In addition to Captain Bozeman's Toomsaba Rifles, other area units assigned to the 13th regiment included the "Petus Guards," a group of area volunteers organized at Marion Station.

While Captain Bozeman's men had initially agreed to serve the Confederacy for one year, most

answered a call to re-volunteer in 1862. However, Captain Bozeman returned home, along with T.S. Pigford, and left his command to Hugh D. Cameron.

Later, Mr. Pigford and others who came home were were called back to the battlefronts, with many joining General Forest's calvary.

Captain Bozeman died in 1867, but his wife and children continued to live in the house until the late 1800s. Among the later occupants of the antebellum home was Mr. Nell King, an area timberman.

More than a home, the plantation residence stands as a lasting tribute to both its builder and the bygone days of the county's antebellum period.

According to research by Toomsaba's Jarvis Welch, the Bozeman plantation was one of several such antebellum spreads located in the county. Five miles southeast of the Bozeman place, Dr. Welch operated one of the largest plantations and, northwest of Toomsaba, a Colonel Durr, became one of the richest and largest slave holders.

(NEXT WEEK: Paths to the Past will continue to look at the antebellum period in Lauderdale County.)



( 3648 P.S. Dr. - M. Virginia Shine Robinson Alabama,

Jessie --

M.

~~Robinson~~

Tucker

Burned

Aida -

~~Robinson~~

Culpepper -

Jackson Robinson - step son (fairly young man) ~~that~~ died

Dana -

Cooper Institute @

Lockard

Taught music & studio

Old Miss

<sup>in</sup> 1950's - 1985

Blue Flame Café

EMI

guitar

Benny & guitar

lived @ School in Wickburg



1900  
38  
1862  
June 38

38

1865  
1838  
27

1865  
1858  
17

1857  
1838  
19

27  
19  
8  
5  
3